



In 2006, our estate grapes were harvested at an average of 22 to 25 degrees Brix in the early morning hours on three separate dates from three separate vineyard blocks and delivered promptly to the winery. Our vineyard crew sorted out leaves and made sure that only the most perfect grapes went into the stemmer-crusher. Native yeast fermentation took place in stainless steel tanks specially designed for small lots. The wine was aged for 25 months in artisan-crafted French barrels and then bottled in November of 2008. The depth of color and remarkable structure of this Cabernet is quite rare for a wine this young, and it should age quite well for 15 to 20 years or more.

*Appellation: St. Helena, Napa Valley*

*Blend: 92% Cabernet Sauvignon  
8% Cabernet Franc*

*Alcohol: 13.5%*

*Production: 8 barrels (200 cases)*

*Release Date: September 2009*

2006 SABINA VINEYARDS  
ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
SAINT HELENA, NAPA VALLEY

*Winemaker Tasting Notes*

Anyone who has planted and nursed a vineyard into maturity would appreciate Seneca's quote; "It is a rough road that leads to the heights of greatness." Such is the case for the Sabina Vineyards Estate Vineyard. The list of challenges faced while developing this vineyard includes: vines scorched with flames, broken end posts, the trials of low wells, the exotic nutritional needs of the grape vine, flocks of grape-eating wild turkeys, and the endless weed removal that is forever the task of the organic farmer. It is easy to make light of the various trials that have been endured, now that they have passed into memory. This is the life of the gentleman farmer. Yet it is the premier bottling of the Sabina Vineyard that is the rarity worth praise.

In all the Napa Valley, there are several slopes that would qualify as "Grand Cru terroir" or "vineyards of great character and distinction." The east facing slopes north of the town of St. Helena qualify as such. The Sabina Estate Vineyard resides on such splendid ground.

The dark color and robust aromas of black currant, briary dark fruits and tar are indicative of the great Cabernet Sauvignon vineyards of Napa Valley, some of the finest in the world. The superbly delineated palate structure that is simultaneously seamless and bold bears testament to the tremendous potential of this young vineyard. Seldom have I tasted such an age-worthy wine from so young a vineyard.

The flavors evolve as the wine is savored during a meal. Blackberry, cassis and cherry are supported by a fine beam of tannin that hints of graphite, tar and blueberry. Flavors from a deliciously ripe black cherry linger on the palate long after the wine is enjoyed. These are the sensations that are associated with the finest Cabernet Sauvignon that is produced...anywhere. Such is the reward of David and Susan Sabin's commitment to this remarkable vineyard. We know that you will enjoy the fruits of our labors for many years to come.

- David DeSante, *Winemaker*