

CLARKSBURG

WINE COMPANY



2010 CABERNET SAUVIGNON RESERVE



Appellation: Clarksburg, California

Vineyard: This vineyard uses a bilateral cordon California sprawl trellis system. The Cabernet Sauvignon is grown alongside the Petite Verdot in this vineyard.

Soil: The vineyard is mostly composed of sand and clay.

Composition: 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Petite Verdot, 4% Merlot, and 2% Petite Sirah.

Case Production: 101

pH: 3.45

TA (g/100ml): .68

Alcohol: 14.5%

Harvest Date: October 20, 2010

Brix at Harvest: 25.3 Brix

Wine Processing: The fruit was handpicked and delivered in half ton bins. The Petite Verdot and Cabernet Sauvignon were picked together and mixed in the vineyard before delivery. The two grape varieties were cofermented. We gently destemmed the fruit without crushing or maceration of the grapes to increase fruit expression. The must went through a 96 hour cold soak before fermentation. During this cold soak, the must was gently hand mixed and to aid in color extraction. We used warm extraction with gentle mixing during early fermentation to extract color and soft tannins. As the fermentation progressed, the tank was cooled and mixed less frequently to prevent harsh tannin extraction. The cab and petite verdot was fermented with BM45 yeast to enhance fruit expression and provide elegant tannin structure. The free run wine was drained from the tank to barrels and was followed by malolactic fermentation in barrel.

Aging: This wine was blended shortly after harvest and then aged for 18 months in 75% new French oak from Demptos, Vicard, and Taransaud cooperages with the remainder in neutral barrels. We chose barrels for this wine to enhance the earthy smoke notes while maintaining the dark fruit profile.

Tasting Notes: This wine is an inky purple. The initial bouquet is a dusty currant fruit. As the wine opens, intriguing notes of scorched earth, straw, bayleaf, and blueberry intermingle in a heady aroma. The wine features flavors of bright berry and dark cherry juxtaposed with flavors of tobacco and cedar. The wine is robust with elegant tannin, charred oak, and soft butterscotch notes. As the wine finishes over several minutes, one notes baking spice, butter, and refined oak.