

## DUCKHORN VINEYARDS



### NAPA VALLEY

## 2005 Estate Grown Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Our Estate Grown wines are blended using only the finest lots from our Napa Valley Estate Program, which is comprised of seven properties totaling 175 planted vine acres and featuring a diversity of soil types, elevations and microclimates. These mountain and valley floor vineyards are meticulously farmed by our experienced in-house vineyard team to ensure excellence throughout the viticultural process. The team harvests the grapes at optimal maturity, going through vineyard sites several times, picking only the ripe fruit with each pass. In any given harvest we have 30 or more separate lots of Estate wine. The final blend for this wine is approachable in its youth, with a soft texture and notable finesse, while still possessing the structure to age for a decade or longer.

### 2005 Harvest Notes

The 2005 season began with a wet winter and spring, which led to annual rainfall totals that were well above average. We had an ideal fruit set, which produced an abundant number of full grape clusters. As a result, the vintage yielded exceptional fruit for the season. The harvest lasted over two months—into the early days of November. In many ways the 2005 season was reminiscent of the excellent 1997 vintage, which offered an abundant harvest of remarkable quality.

### Comments from the Winemaker

A classic Cabernet Sauvignon that is blended with Merlot to add complexity and round out the mid-palate, this is a layered, mouth-filling wine with ripe, integrated tannins and a fine-grained finish. Dark aromas of toffee, hickory, bacon, cedar and smoke are contrasted by vibrant elements of red currant and spearmint. On the palate, black currant and blueberry flavors dominate, underscored by notes of earth and oak.

### Varietal Content

79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot

### Harvest Information

Appellation: Napa Valley

Sub-appellations: Yountville, St. Helena, Howell Mountain

Harvest Dates: September 14—October 25, 2005

Average Sugar at Harvest: 26.9° Brix

100% Estate Vineyards

5 Vineyards Harvested — Patzimaro, Rector Creek, Candlestick Ridge, Stout and Monitor Ledge Vineyards

### Cooperage

100% French Oak Château-style barrels (60 gallons)

Barrel Aging: 20 months

Age of Barrels: 100% new

### Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%

.59 g/100 ml titratable acidity

10-12 days fermentation at 80°F

pH: 3.53

Bottled: July 2007

Release Date: September 2008