

DUCKHORN VINEYARDS



NAPA VALLEY

2006 Estate Grown Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon
Monitor Ledge Vineyard

Monitor Ledge takes its name from an outcropping in the mountains overlooking the vineyard. The fruit from Monitor Ledge has been an important component of Duckhorn Vineyards wine blends since 1985. Located on the alluvial fan of Selby Creek, the site is composed of cobblestones and a gravelly, sandy loam soil. Because water drains rapidly in the lean soil, the vines struggle to grow, and the resulting fruit has intensity and structure that make the wines from this vineyard unique. With excellent sun exposure, the fruit consistently ripens to ideal maturity. This vineyard is often the first we harvest, bringing us an early indication of the quality of the vintage to come.

2006 Harvest Notes

The 2006 growing season was marked by a very mild summer with a mid-July heat spike that accelerated ripening. Mild temperatures continued throughout the fall allowing for a moderately paced harvest. The long growing season brought complex and intense flavor and aroma development.

Comments from the Winemaker

Known for its lush, red-berry character, this wine's core of Cabernet Sauvignon was blended with Merlot to add texture and velvety roundness. The aroma is dominated by elements of raspberry, red currant and cranberry, along with underlying notes of cardamom, nutmeg and orange peel. In turn, the palate is lively and lifted, with integrated acidity, flavors of strawberry, red currant, boysenberry, coconut and crème fraîche, and soft tannins that lead to a fine-grained finish.

Varietal Content

88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot

Harvest Information

Appellation: Napa Valley
Harvest Dates: September 14—October 25, 2006
Average Sugar at Harvest: 27.3° Brix
Monitor Ledge Vineyard

Cooperage

100% French oak Chateau-style barrels (60 gallons)
Barrel Aging: 18 months
Age of Barrels: 100% new

Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%
.61 g/100ml titratable acidity
10-12 days fermentation at 80°F
pH: 3.42

Bottled: July 2008
Release Date: September 2009