

# SILVER OAK

2 0 0 8

## Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

### TASTING NOTES

Our 2008 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is a complex and layered expression of California Cabernet. The wine has a dark garnet color and is bursting with fruit even as it is poured. It has a nose of cassis, violets, licorice, allspice and roasting coffee. On the palate, it has an extraordinarily rich attack, a satin texture and an exuberant expression of fruit on the mid-palate that comes from picking grapes at the peak of their ripeness. The wine finishes with notions of savory umami, and fruit with a medium tannic grip. Given proper cellaring, this wine should give drinking pleasure through 2032.

### BLENDING AND AGING

Our 2008 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, selected from vineyards throughout the appellation, is 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot. We blended the vineyard lots in early 2009 and transferred the wine to 100% new American oak barrels for aging. Blending prior to barreling allows us to achieve a balance of the wine's primary elements, such as fruit and tannin, before they are influenced by oak. The wine was then aged in barrel for approximately 24 months and another 20 months in bottle to harmonize its components before release.

### VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2008 vintage featured a dry spring with serious frost damage in some vineyards and cool bloom-time conditions which, coupled together, produced a light crop. It was a mild summer with a few heat spikes in July, August and early September. Harvest was about nine days earlier than normal due to the small crop and accelerated ripening from the warm temperatures. We started picking in Napa Valley on September 1st and concluded harvest on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| VINTAGE      | 2008  |
| APPELLATION  | Napa Valley   |
| COMPOSITION  | 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Merlot,<br>7% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot |
| BOTTLE SIZES | 750ml, 1.5 L Magnum, 3 L Double Magnum, 6 L Imperial                        |
| ALCOHOL      | 14.1%   |
| RELEASE DAY  | February 2, 2013  |

