

## **2008 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon – Kate’s and B’s blocks (aka “better halves”)**

The more we farm, the more we learn about the individual attributes of each block. Sometimes we discover that certain parts of the vineyard are best as small components of a larger blend, while at other times some blocks simply stand out as worthy of their own bottle. Micro-blocks E,F,G,H,I & J – more memorably referred to as Kate’s and B’s blocks – are shining examples of Cabernet that deserve to be in the spotlight. This is classic Cabernet territory: high density vine spacing, steep hillsides of rock and clay, tiny yields of small inky-black berries, a thoughtful clonal selection matched by a rigorous farming regime.

Vintage 2008 had all of the right climatic components that we hope for, but the timing was difficult. Late frosts, high winds, and high temperatures all conspired to produce a challenging vintage. On the positive side, those of us who farmed diligently, waited patiently and harvested carefully were able to produce wines of great promise. The resulting wine is intensely flavored and highly structured. Black currant, spice, and cocoa balance the cedar and leather notes in this wine, which typically exhibits more earth-forward characteristics than our other bottlings of Cabernet Sauvignon. Coupled with fine tannins, we feel it is built to age with grace for many years to come.

### **Profile**

Appellation	Alexander Valley
Harvest	10-30-2008
Cooperage	100% French; 67% new
Blend	100% Cabernet Sauvignon – clones 4, 191 and 337
Alcohol	14.5%
Brix	25.5
pH	3.81
Total Acidity	6.09 g/L
Bottling	9-28-10
Production	223 cases

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