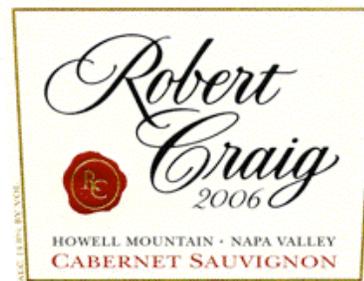


2006
Howell Mountain
Napa Valley
Cabernet Sauvignon

Blend: 84% Cabernet Sauvignon,
12% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc
Total Production: 1240 cases



WINEMAKER NOTES Take a hike through the backcountry of Howell Mountain and you'll catch a whiff of the elements that distinguish Cabernet Sauvignons from this fabled appellation in northeastern Napa Valley. Mountain berry and wildflower, warm spice, pepper and lavender flow through this signature Howell Mountain Cabernet. Unfiltered and unfined, the 2006 vintage is a seamless wine, with all of the elements in the right place to create exceptional balance and complexity.

VINEYARD CHARACTERISTICS Howell Mountain's rugged terrain produces among Napa Valley's most acclaimed and sought-after Cabernets. Our estate vineyard and winery are located at the highest elevation, along a ridgeline overlooking the Valley at nearly 2300 feet. The red and brown volcanic soils are thin, rocky and well-drained, causing the vines to struggle for water and nutrients and creating small berries that are intensely flavored. Daytime temperatures are moderate and nights are warmer, translating into an extended growing season that allows the berries to ripen slowly.

TASTING NOTES *Aroma:* Luscious blackberry and boysenberry, with touches of white pepper, lavender, anise and espresso bean. *Flavors:* Intense, mouth-filling profile of black cherry and raspberry, underlain with more white pepper, wildflower, roasted coffee, tobacco and vanilla cream followed by hints of coconut and rhubarb. *Finish:* Complex flavors extend all the way through mid-palate, ending in a full-throttle finish. *General:* This smooth, polished wine possesses the weight and structure befitting a mountain Cabernet. Fine, silky tannins provide the scaffolding for long-term aging. Decanting is recommended.

WINE INFORMATION *Harvest dates:* September 30 – October 20
Average sugar: 26.1° Brix; *TA:* .57; *pH:* 3.90
Alcohol: 14.8%
Barrel Aging: 20 months in Chateau-style French oak, 75% new and 25% second year. Unfiltered and unfined.
Bottling Date: July 2008
Price: California suggested retail price is \$80 per bottle.
Release Date: September 2009