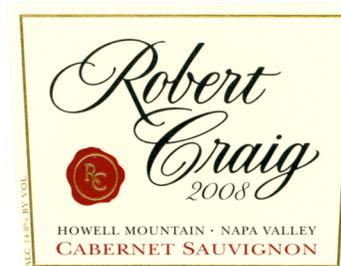


2008
Howell Mountain
Napa Valley
Cabernet Sauvignon

Blend: 98% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Petit Verdot
Total Production: 1000 cases



WINEMAKER NOTES Howell Mountain was the first appellation to be designated within Napa Valley in 1983, and with good reason. Starting at 1400 feet, the Appellation climbs to over 2300 feet, creating a magical slice of mountain *terroir* that boasts a moderate climate, superb volcanic soils and intensely flavored winegrapes. Grown on the summit of Howell Mountain at 2300' of elevation, our estate Cabernet Sauvignon exhibits the power, grace and nerve which make this AVA unique. Unfiltered and unfinned.

VINEYARD CHARACTERISTICS The rocky, red soils of Howell Mountain present a challenge to any winegrower as the vines struggle to produce each year. Over the last ten years our 9.5 acre Winery Estate Vineyard has yielded an average of 1.8 tons per acre. The shy bearing vines and slow ripening clusters lead to wines of great power, depth and complexity without the overripe qualities found often in new world wines. Our goal is to let the vineyard expression shine through in the finished wine.

TASTING NOTES *Aroma:* Intense, deep black currant and black cherry, intermixed with white pepper, a touch of anisette, fresh lavender and warm red stones. *Flavors:* An elegant mélange of black cherry, mountain lavender, espresso bean and savory notes. Signature Howell Mountain pepper and spice enter on the mid-palate, followed by an invigorating minerality. *Finish:* The dark fruit keeps evolving, enlivened by a bouquet of violets and iris, together with coffee bean and cola. *General:* Expressive, pure fruit and fine-grained, chewy tannins come together in a well-integrated package built for the long haul. Decanting is recommended.

WINE INFORMATION *Harvest dates:* September 24 – October 14
Average sugar: 26° Brix; *TA:* .60; *pH:* 3.78
Alcohol: 14.8%
Barrel Aging: 18 months in Chateau-style French oak, 75% new and 25% second year. Unfiltered and unfinned.
Bottling Date: May 2010
Price: California suggested retail price is \$80 per bottle.
Release Date: September 2011

NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON ~ ELEVATED

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