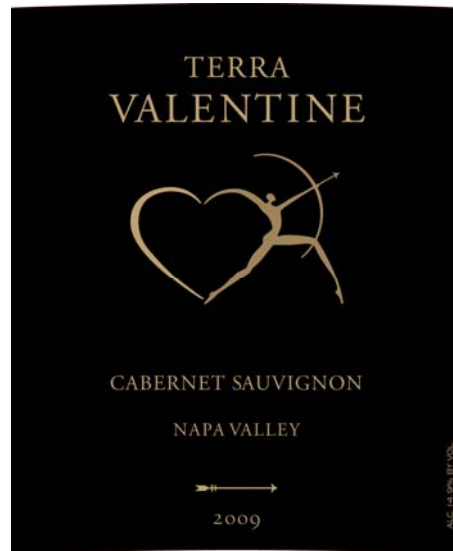


TERRA VALENTINE

2009 Napa Valley
Cabernet Sauvignon



Vintage Notes: In 2009 we were blessed by a mild spring with very little frost damage, compared to 2008, when spring doled out six times the amount of frosty mornings. The fact that late spring rains helped to develop water reservoirs, along with the lower than average high temperatures, helped reduce the need for water. Cooler temperatures and longer hang time coupled to allow for a slow-and-steady growing season. The relaxed pace of harvest was abruptly transformed to rush-harvesting as early-season rain welcomed itself to the valley. Even so, the grapes that were harvested in time were well-developed and ready to go.

Winemaking Notes: These mountain-grown grapes were harvested over 3 weeks beginning on October 8, 2009. The fruit was de-stemmed and the must sorted to remove any bits of stem prior to fermentations. After a 48 hour cold soak, the must was inoculated using 4 different yeast strains. Using our automated punch-down system, the fermentations were mixed every 12 hours for the first week and then the cap was just briefly submerged once a day until the completion of fermentation. The wine was drained off of the skins after an average of 22 days, settled and racked to barrel for malolactic fermentation. The wine was aged in 100% French oak barrels for 22 months, 25% of which were new. The blend of 85% cabernet sauvignon, 10% merlot, and 5% cabernet franc is a mixture of 5 different clones of cabernet, 3 clones of merlot, and 3 clones of cabernet franc.

Tasting Notes: Deep ruby color frames the black currant, fig, and boysenberry fruit aromas mingled with cedar, tobacco and baking spices. Smooth soft fruit tannins greet the palette building into a round viscosity that finishes with toasted cacao nibs.

Release Date: September 1, 2011

Production: 1110 cases

Represented by the San Francisco Wine Exchange
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