



## 2009 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

**Description:** Our 2009 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is terroir-driven with aromas and flavors of blackberries, tobacco, and allspice notes balanced with expressions of toasty vanilla oak. The layers and intensity of flavors evolve into a plush, lingering finish with velvety tannins and is a perfect complement to warm, earthy dishes, wild game and red meats. Lush and well-structured, the 2009 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is meant to be enjoyed now or can be cellared for the next ten years.

**Viticulture Notes:** With a dry winter and warm spring the vines awoke early in 2009. Fortunately in late March the vineyards were replenished by spring rains, which supported vigorous growth prior to bloom. An even set led to a balanced crop, and mild summer conditions with a warm August encouraged ripening and flavor development. Despite early October rains, the growing season allowed for uniform ripening in the Alexander Valley which led to wines with good structure, balance, and complexity, bursting with varietal character.

**Winemaking Notes:** A majority of the fruit is sourced from our Alexander Valley vineyard, which is a warmer climate growing area that produces some of the world's most beautiful expressions of Cabernet Sauvignon. The grapes were harvested in the early morning to keep the fruit as cool as possible before fermentation. Grapes were destemmed but not crushed, leaving greater than 90% whole berries for fermentation. The Cabernet Sauvignon juice was fermented in stainless steel upright fermenters with a temperature range between 88°F-90°F, receiving extended skin contact for 14 to 21 days for maximum extraction of color and flavor. To ensure the development of desired flavor and aroma characteristics, the juice was inoculated with the yeast strain and 100% of the wine completed malolactic fermentation.

The wine was aged for 16 months in new and used French, American and Hungarian oak barrels with a mixture of heavy, medium and medium plus toasting levels to add additional flavor and complexity prior to bottling.

<b>Varietal Content:</b>	91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Syrah, 4% Merlot
<b>Varietal Origin:</b>	Alexander Valley
<b>Alcohol Level:</b>	14.5%
<b>Titrateable Acidity:</b>	0.65g/100ml
<b>Residual Sugar:</b>	0.03 g/100ml
<b>pH:</b>	3.65