



CHALK HILL

ESTATE BOTTLED

2009 CHAIRMAN'S CABERNET SAUVIGNON/CARMÉNÈRE

V I N T A G E

This wine features fruit from our Estate West vineyard located on a contiguous piece of property just across Chalk Hill Road. It is a spectacular site featuring 56 acres of vines that we planted from 2003 through 2008. The warmest south facing section is known as Clara's Vineyard. Its volcanic soils are extremely rocky and porous—ideal for red Bordeaux varieties. As an experiment, we planted a couple of acres of Carménère here. While it yields a miserly one-ton per acre, we love its thick texture, intense dark color and aromas of blackberry, cassis and ripe black olives. To preserve the long-term viability of the ecosystem, all of our vineyards are maintained using low-input, sustainable viticultural practices.

W I N E M A K I N G

The 2009 season was cool and arid with few heat spikes. A warm spell in September helped spur the ripening process. Overall, the cool weather throughout the growing season yielded wines that are intensely flavored and well structured. The grapes were hand harvested in late October and cold soaked prior to fermentation to increase color and flavor extraction. Yields were extremely low, averaging a mere 1.5 tons per acre. After fermentation the wine was aged in French oak barrels, 83% new, for 20 months. To preserve the texture and aromatics, the wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered. ~

T A S T I N G

Our 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon/Carménère is impenetrably dark and concentrated. The nose is pungent with black cherries, roasted coffee, rosemary and spicy oak. The flavors are thick with blackberries, chocolate, espresso beans and vanilla. This is an amazingly lush wine that should continue to improve over the next decade.

H A R V E S T D A T A

Harvest Dates: OCTOBER 25 & 28, 2009

Average Yields: 1.5 TONS/ACRE

Average Brix at Harvest: 26.0°

F E R M E N T A T I O N / A G I N G D A T A

100% MALOLACTIC FERMENTATION WITH BÂTONNAGE

Cooperage: 100% FRENCH OAK, 83% NEW

Barrel Aging: 20 MONTHS

W I N E D A T A

Blend: 84% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 16% CARMÉNÈRE

Bottling Date: JUNE 22, 2011, UNFINED & UNFILTERED

pH: 3.88 *TA:* 5.3 g/L *Alcohol:* 15.5%

CHALK HILL ESTATE VINEYARDS & WINERY

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