

BROWN

NAPA VALLEY

BROWN ESTATE 2008 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Composition	100% Estate Grown Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyard Source	Brown Estate – Terraces Block
Appellation	Napa Valley
Barrel Aging	36 months in 30% new French oak
Alcohol	14.5% by vol.
Production	300 cases in 12 x 750ml format

Growing Season

The 2008 growing season began with a dry spring, followed by a long hard frost in late April. It ended with heat spikes shortly thereafter. The resulting roller coaster ride made for erratic bloom conditions with significant loss due to temperatures as low as 24 degrees. Lower yields, a less vigorous canopy, and smaller berry size made for less work and exceptional quality in the vineyard.

Tasting Notes

Violet-hued royal ruby core subtly hints at deep-seated flavors of dark blue and black fruit that reveal themselves slowly and deliberately with time in the glass. Nose immediately and unmistakably proclaims its Napa Valley pedigree with dusty overtones, also present on the palate, giving way to classic aromas of Brown Estate hillside fruit, punctuated by lofty notes of black cherry and boysenberry. Gorgeous notes of blueberry, blackberry, white flowers and subtle citrus intermingle with damp earth, graphite, and spice box. Opulent mouthfeel with loads of cascading plush velvet reflect a generous, luxurious spirit that brilliantly expresses unctuousness without feeling overly weighty thanks to an underlying reverberation of lively acidity that lengthens and extends the finish, taking the canvas of complexities on the palate to exhilarating heights. Still very young as cabernet sauvignon goes, this wine will benefit from decanting. Tremendous structure bodes well for long-term ageability.