

JOSEPH PHELPS

V I N E Y A R D S

Cabernet Sauvignon

NAPA VALLEY

2010 Vintage



TASTING NOTES The 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon is ultra-concentrated bolt in the nose and on the palate with aromas of blueberry, dark plum and Black Mission fig followed by cardamom, nutmeg, graphite, tobacco and vanilla bean. The sweet tannins are inter twined with flavors of anise, caramel cream, spicy black pepper and crushed blackberries, contributing to the long, lush finish.

GROWING SEASON The 2010 growing season experienced earlier bud break than 2009, but flowering and veraison occurred up to two weeks later. A prolonged frost season lasted until the end of May followed by mild early summer temperatures. Veraison was 50% complete by mid-August and two heat spikes, the first in late August and the second at the end of September, helped to propel ripening. Temperatures in September and October were consistently on the warm side until rain in the third week of October.

Overall quality was exceptional despite initial concerns due to the cool growing season and late rains. Structure, color and fruit expression in the wines are truly balanced and some of the best over the last decade.

WINEMAKING NOTES

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN VINEYARD SELECTIONS

92% Cabernet Sauvignon
6% Merlot
2% Petit Verdot

44% Home Ranch — St. Helena AVA
28% Suscol — Napa Valley AVA
16% Yountville — Oak Knoll AVA
12% Banca Dorada — Rutherford AVA

BARREL AGING

The wine was aged for eighteen months in 45% new oak (57% French, 43% American) and 55% used French and American oak barrels before bottling.