

HESS COLLECTION

MOUNT VEEDER | NAPA VALLEY

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2008



HESS COLLECTION MOUNT VEEDER

Donald Hess was attracted to Mount Veeder for its elevation and unique mountain climate, which he believed would yield the best grapes to produce great wines. Mount Veeder is distinguished among Napa Valley's mountain districts for having the highest elevation, coolest growing season and geologically diverse soils. True to the unique mountain terroir, Hess Mount Veeder wines are known for their complexity, structure and elegance. Our mountain estate's 310 acres of vineyards are sustainably farmed in accordance with our founder's philosophy: "Nurture the land, return what you take."

MOUNT VEEDER CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Our signature Mount Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon comes from our estate Veeder Hills Vineyard. The elevation of this vineyard ranges from 600-1,120 feet, and its steep slopes and sedimentary clay and shale soils restrict root growth, resulting in Mount Veeder's hallmark small berries with intense fruit flavors. True to its appellation, this wine possesses dark concentrated fruit flavors and robust tannins.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

A frost in 2008 damaged fruit in many parts of Napa Valley - we only harvested about half the tons expected from Mount Veeder. Consequently, the case production is significantly lower than previous vintages. Even with this decreased inventory we maintained our strict evaluation of individual barrel lots/ vineyard blocks in order to cull out any gallons that did not merit inclusion in the final bottling blend. Aromas of toffee and wild mountain blackberries fill the glass, while the rich mid-palate of boysenberry coulis parlays into a long, silky finish.

VINTAGE

The 2008 vintage started out with warm March weather, leading to an early bud break. In mid-April a cold snap brought a frost that resulted in some crop reduction. With smaller yields and lower vine growth overall, the remaining clusters saw nearly perfect ripening conditions, resulting in a high quality vintage.

BLEND:	82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Malbec and 8% Merlot
ALCOHOL:	14.6%
PH:	3.82
TA:	0.58g/100ml
COOPERAGE:	Aged in 75% new French oak barrels for 18.5 months

