

PICAZO

2007 CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY



About Picazo

We (Jose and Pam Picazo) launched our winery in 2004 to produce small amounts of handmade Merlot from our 14-acre estate vineyard in the Livermore Valley. Our site is unique. The soils are gravelly and well-draining. The microclimate is cooler than the surrounding valley floor thanks to our elevation, exposure to the elements and increased air circulation. Having sold previous harvests to local vintners, we knew our decade-old vineyard was capable of producing deeply-colored, intensely-aromatic, richly-textured Merlot. To help vinify our wines, we hired Mark Clarin as winemaker. A Livermore native who had previously worked for Wente and Bonny Doon, Mark has a familiarity with the local terroir that is unmatched.

Climate

The Napa Valley has become one of the most well known regions for growing extraordinary Cabernet Sauvignon. We found a unique growing site in the hills east of the city that is planted to multiple clones of this Noble grape. The climate is cooler than up valley which allows the fruit to hang longer and offer more flavor. This is due to the proximity to the San Pablo Bay and the Napa delta.

Vintage

Every vintage seems to have its character that shows up in the wine. The vintage had one of its classic heat spikes right around Labor day which artificially bumped up the sugar content. The rest of September was cool and mild with most days topping out in the mid 70's. October came in with the Indian Summer warmth that helped finish off the ripening for this classic Cabernet Sauvignon.

Vineyards

This particular vineyard is planted on top of one of the many rolling hills above Napa. The soils are volcanic in nature and the grape vine works very hard to extract the necessary nutrients that reside in the layers. We picked 2 tons of fruit from this vineyard from 4 different clonal plantings. Divided equally we used clone 337 -191-169-30 or (See Clone). The nuances of these different clones show up to become a rich and complex bottle of wine.

Winemaking

Hand harvested into small bins early in the morning, the grapes were destemmed to French Oak barrels for a three-day, pre-fermentation cold soak. During the fermentation, the temperature was regulated by spinning the barrels 3 times at various intervals throughout the day, allowing the heat to equilibrate with the juice. The wine was aged in French Oak barrels for 23 months, blended and bottled.

Winemaker Notes

Our 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon is a classic expression of the southeast Napa Valley. The wine opens with a deep ruby color. The aromatics are intense offering a mélange of Spicy Clove, Black Currant, Cedar and Tobacco. The flavors are dense textures of spiced Blackberry, Black Currant, Vanilla, Cloves and Earth. The rich tannins provide a full mouth feel and attractive length to this excellent Inaugural offering

Analysis:

Composition:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Alcohol:	14.9%
PH:	3.68
TA:	6.1 g/L
Production:	90 cases
Bottled:	August 2009
Release:	Fall 2010

Price: \$125