



## MONTICELLO VINEYARDS

# *Jefferson Cuvee Cabernet Sauvignon*

ESTATE GROWN IN THE NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE 2010

### TASTING NOTES

This 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon is like a slice of Napa Valley, as it represents four vineyards spanning the valley from St. Helena to Rutherford to Yountville to our Home Ranch in Oak Knoll District. You can find elements of each appellation in the finished wine. Lush fruit from St. Helena, dusty tannins and berries from Rutherford, black berry fruits and firm tannins from Yountville, and a solid backbone from Oak Knoll District. The wine is big, with a nice attack, huge mid-palate and along lingering finish. Drink Now through 2022.

- Chris Corley, Winemaker

### WINEMAKING NOTES

The Jefferson Cuvee Cabernet Sauvignon blend is always an enjoyable wine to assemble each year. We generally have a relatively high proportion (up to 25%) of varietals other than Cabernet Sauvignon used in the blend so we can explore some additional layers of interest in terms of varietal aromas and textural complexity. Historically, Merlot has been a primary blending component for this wine, as we have really enjoyed the pairing of the soft tannin-higher acid Merlot with the higher tannin-lower acid Cabernet lots. Cabernet Franc has long played a supporting role in the Jefferson Cuvee blend up until 2009, when we blended with Cabernet Franc as the primary blending component. 2010 marks our 12th vintage of Cabernet Franc winemaking and we have learned a lot about the grape over those years. With careful farming and patience nearing harvest, we feel that the grape has earned its place as a master blender in our cellar.

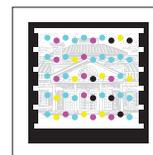
### VINEYARDS, VINTAGE AND VINIFICATION

Cabernet Sauvignon	State Lane Vineyard - <i>Yountville, Napa Valley</i>
Cabernet Sauvignon	Tietjen Vineyard on Niebaum Lane - <i>Rutherford, Napa Valley</i>
Cabernet Sauvignon	Yewell Vineyard on Ehlers Lane - <i>St Helena, Napa Valley</i>
Cab Franc	Home Ranch Vineyard - <i>Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley</i>
Cuvee	75% Cabernet Sauvignon / 25% Cabernet Franc

In 2010 rainfall returned after three dry years, pushed bud break, flowering and fruit-set back by at least two weeks at the front end of the growing season, and due to the cloud cover, there was no frost damage in 2010. The summer brought cooler than normal temperatures but gave way to a welcome, warm and consistent Indian Summer that was just the ticket, bringing good flavor and color development across the board.

The relatively cool growing season coupled with the unexpected heat spikes in late summer resulted in a late and shortened harvest with lower yields. We were excited about what we were tasting from the vineyards--concentrated flavors that will materialize into elegant, structured wines.

*Oak - 22 Months in French Oak, 60% New*  
Alcohol - 14.1%



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**SMALL WINERY; BIG REPUTATION.** The CORLEY FAMILY grows and produces 15,000 cases of exclusively Napa Valley wines designated as MONTICELLO VINEYARDS, CORLEY RESERVE and our CORLEY Proprietary Red Wine. We grow Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Syrah on five small vineyard sites in the Oak Knoll, Yountville, Rutherford and St. Helena appellations of Napa Valley.