

elements

by ARTESA

2006 RED WINE

SONOMA COUNTY 65% | NAPA COUNTY 35%

VINTAGE

The year began with heavy winter rains, and a late cool and wet spring, lasting until mid-June, caused a slow start to the growing season. To ensure the grapes ripened fully during the shorter than normal season, crops were thinned and leaves removed from around the fruit zone to increase exposure to the sun. Leaf removal also increased air circulation around the clusters, keeping the fruit healthy and free of rot, even after an early October rain. An additional week of ripening intensified fruit flavors.

VINEYARDS

Grapes were harvested from 12 vineyard sites within Napa and Sonoma counties. The foundation of this wine is Cabernet Sauvignon from our Alexander Valley mountainside vineyard and Tempranillo from our Carneros Estate. The Alexander Valley vineyard is situated in a warm microclimate that produces aromatic berry fruit and supple body. In contrast, Carneros lies north of the San Francisco Bay and is buffeted by brisk winds and often is shrouded in fog. Tempranillo grown here is spicy, brooding and dense.

WINEMAKING

Following hand-harvesting, the grapes were de-stemmed and gently split open. Full extraction of berry flavors was accomplished through a combination of punching down the cap and gentle pumpover irrigation. Post-fermentation extended maceration was used to enhance body and structure. The wine was then pressed directly to barrel and underwent malolactic fermentation. It aged in French oak for 24 months and was racked four times during 18 months of aging to mature the wine.

TASTING NOTES

This finely crafted blend of varietals of three famous wine regions - Bordeaux, Rhone and Rioja - is brimming with lively dark cherry, ripe plum, cassis and juicy blueberries wrapped in a spicy bouquet of cinnamon, white pepper, clove and faint hints of black truffles. The flavor is true to the aromas and the texture is silky and supple. The wine is ready to enjoy now, yet has the structure to age gracefully for several years.



Release Date: February 1, 2010

Varietal Information: 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Tempranillo, 20% Merlot, 18% Malbec, 11% Garnacha, 2% Petite Sirah, 2% Petit Verdot, 1% Graciano, & 1% Cabernet Franc

Appellation: 65% Sonoma County & 35% Napa County

Harvest Information

Date: October 2006

Brix: 25.1

Length of fermentation: 12 days

Technical Data

Alc: 14.3%

RS: 0.08%

Production: 4,400 cases

Cooperage: 100% French Oak

Age: 18 months

Ratio: 25% new oak

Please enjoy our wines responsibly. © 2010 Artesa Winery, Napa, CA

1345 Henry Road, Napa, CA 94559 | tel 707.224.1668 | fax 707.224.1672 | www.artesawinery.com