

Nickel & Nickel
S&N
Single Vineyard Wines

2008 C.C. RANCH

Cabernet Sauvignon, Rutherford, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

C.C. Ranch is planted in Rutherford, along the slope of a knoll west of the Silverado Trail. The vineyard grows classic Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon on well-drained, gravelly loam soil and receives a variety of exposures, depending on the block and location. The vines are well balanced and the canopy is opened up to give good light exposure. Nickel & Nickel produces wine from 15 select acres of this 115-acre vineyard.

HARVEST NOTES

The 2008 growing season provided a variety of weather patterns that presented a few challenges, but ultimately resulted in some exciting wines. The year began with substantial rainfall, but was followed by a dry spell that actually put us behind normal precipitation levels. The longest frost season in decades followed, which lowered vineyard yields, but the remaining crop developed beautiful intensity. Very warm temperatures in mid-May gave way to a cool summer and warm September. Since this vineyard has a few different blocks, each with a different soil type and exposure, the fruit was harvested over a three-week period. Each individual block offered its own unique contribution to the overall wine.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2008 C.C. Ranch has many layers of flavors that are quite distinct. Dark cherry fruit with hints of violet mix with black tea and earth to lend an exotic character to the wine. The natural "Rutherford Dust" and toasty French oak complement the fruit. The silky entry gets fleshier as the fine tannins from this vintage build on the middle palate and progress into a long, smooth finish.

APPELLATION

Rutherford, Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING

French oak barrels
(51% new, 49% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

September 2011

HARVEST DATES

September 11 - 29, 2008

SKIN CONTACT

12 - 15 days

TIME

16 months

FIRST VINTAGE

2005