



2008 JOHN C. SULLENGER VINEYARD®

Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The home vineyard of Nickel & Nickel, Sullenger Vineyard is situated behind the winery in the heart of Oakville and is named for John C. Sullenger, who settled the farmstead in the 1880's. The vineyard's 30 acres of clay loam soil are planted exclusively to Cabernet Sauvignon.

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, which really advanced the flavors. This vineyard was harvested in mid-to-late October as tannins fully matured.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2008 Sullenger offers blackberry, black cherry and an earthy character which blends beautifully on the palate. It delivers on its promise of flavor and thickness, emphasizing the ripe, plushness of the vintage. The supple tannins coupled with the oak give a strong, supportive backbone to this wine, and the consistency of the flavor carries through into a long, memorable finish.

APPELLATION

Oakville, Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING

French oak barrels
(44% new, 56% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

September 2011

HARVEST DATES

October 13 - 28, 2008

SKIN CONTACT

10 - 14 days

TIME

17 months

FIRST VINTAGE

1997