



## 2008 MARTIN STELLING VINEYARD®

Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville, Napa Valley



### VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The 100-acre Martin Stelling Vineyard is located at the base of the western hills in Oakville, and is the primary vineyard for Far Niente Cabernet Sauvignon. Nickel & Nickel is fortunate to farm two acres of this vineyard. The soils are composed of deep volcanic loam with underlying clay and gravel.

### 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 helped develop ripe flavors and mature tannins. Stelling was harvested in mid-October, at the peak of ripeness.

### SENSORY EVALUATION

This 2008 Martin Stelling Cabernet Sauvignon has layers of blackberry, black cherry and cassis, which harmonize with undertones of chocolate and spice. This wine is fleshy with a dark, dense core that expands on the middle palate. The tannins are supple and rich and, combined with the oak, highlight the beautiful fruit medley in a lingering finish.

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### APPELLATION

Oakville, Napa Valley

### VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

### AGING

French oak barrels  
(52% new, 48% once-used)

### RELEASE DATE

September 2011

### HARVEST DATE

October 14, 2008

### SKIN CONTACT

14 - 16 days

### TIME

18 months

### FIRST VINTAGE

1997

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