



## *Rock Cairn Vineyard*

### *Cabernet Sauvignon*

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**Vineyard Description** Planted in 1984, Rock Cairn lies near the southern edge of the Oakville appellation, east of Highway 29 and north of the town of Yountville. The 30-acre vineyard is named for the "cairns" or piles of rocks that were formed long ago when Indians traversed the hills and would place a rock on the pile as an offering for safe passage. The site is comprised of deep gravelly loam with a western exposure, and the vines produce very concentrated fruit late in the season. Nickel & Nickel selects grapes from nine acres of the vineyard.

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**Appellation** Oakville (Napa Valley)

**Year Planted** 1984

**Varietal** Cabernet Sauvignon

**Acreage** 9 acres

**Clone & Rootstock** Cabernet Sauvignon on an old Wente clone planted on St. George rootstock

**Trellising** California T-top

**Geology** This vineyard is one contiguous piece of land, yet it is composed of two completely different source materials. The eastern edge of the vineyard contains mostly colluvial material, washed down from the surrounding hillside. The western edge along Highway 29 is produced from the end of the alluvial fan that extends from the Mayacamas Mountains to the west, across the Harris and Branding Iron vineyards, to Rock Cairn.

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**Tasting Notes** Rooted in the famous loam soils of Oakville, Rock Cairn is a richly structured and powerful wine, showing ripe aromas and flavors of cassis, black cherry and anise. Notes of plum, cherry, clove and mineral emerge, giving depth to the texture, while the oak supports and expands the middle palate, and the mature tannins give length to the finish.