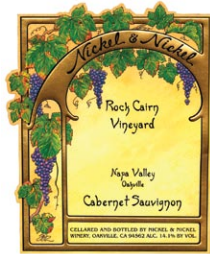


Nickel & Nickel
N&N
Single Vineyard Wines

ROCK CAIRN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON
2007

technical notes:



APPELLATION: Oakville, Napa Valley

HARVEST DATES: October 11-15, 2007

VARIETAL: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

SKIN CONTACT: 8 days

AGING: French oak barrels
(53% new, 47% once-used)

TIME: 17 months

RELEASE DATE: September 2010

FIRST VINTAGE: 1997

vineyard description:

Planted in 1984, Rock Cairn Vineyard 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.

harvest notes:

The traditional T-Top trellis system that carries Rock Cairn's old vines spreads the canes and is one of the few vineyards that captures the feel of "old Napa." With the drier season of 2007, less leaf thinning and lateral removal were required to facilitate light penetration, which is so important in developing fully ripe fruit flavors. The afternoon sun exposure along with the deeper soils allowed us to wait for Rock Cairn to be among the last vineyards picked.

sensory evaluation:

The 2007 Rock Cairn Cabernet Sauvignon combines deep and ripe black cherry flavors with briary and black tea notes that have always defined the distinctive character of this vineyard. The roundness of the entry is supported by a nice core of tannin that gives hints of its ability to improve and develop over a long period. The structure of the wine carries to a finish where the fruit and earthy notes meld into a classically long finish.

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