

WHITE ROCK VINEYARDS

2010 "LAUREATE" CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY

96% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Petit Verdot, 2% Merlot

TECHNICAL DATA

Production: 420 cases

Barrel Ageing: 24 months in
French Oak
50% new barrels

(Taransaud, Sylvain,
Darnajou, Bossuet).

Bottled: Sept 2012, unfiltered

Chemistry: Alcohol 14.8 %
Total Acidity 6.4
Residual Sugar <0.1g/l

Vineyard: Estate grown, produced, and bottled one mile off Silverado Trail, east of Yountville on the south end of the Stag's Leap Range. East and west facing hilltops with white volcanic ash soils in a microclimate a few degrees cooler than the valley floor.

Winemaker's Notes:

Hillside Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon with strong mineral expression from the volcanic ash soils. 2010 was a smaller crop of tiny berries, and the fruit was sorted more than usual to select only the perfectly ripe berries. Deep rich color with a purple hue in the glass, the nose of the 2010 Laureate is as rich as the color promises, huckleberry, espresso, and mocha. The palate displays blackberry and raspberry intermingling with hints of graphite and cedar flavors. The finish is long with more cola and toffee notes. Intense yet balanced, with firm tannins and minerality typical of the White Rock terroir. This vintage of Laureate is ready to drink immediately (and will age gracefully for 10-15 years).

White Rock Vineyards:

Situated in a small valley in the southern foothills of the Stag's Leap Range, the estate began producing wine in the 1870's. The Vandendriessche family has continued in the tradition of natural sustainable farming since 1977. Volcanic ash soils, hillside vines, cooler climate, and hand crafting on the land as well as in the caves make these wines complex and concentrated, with mineral characteristics, expressing the earth itself.

Claire and Henri, proprietors; Christopher, winemaker; Michael, vineyard manager
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