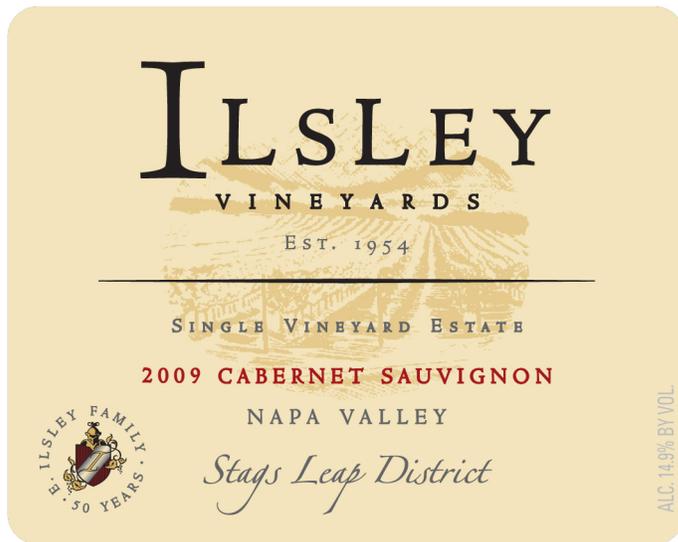


ILSLEY

VINEYARDS

EST. 1954

ILSLEY VINEYARDS TASTING NOTES 2009 CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Vintage: 2009
Appellation: 100% Stags Leap District
Blend: 88% Cabernet Sauvignon,
12% Malbec
Winemaker: Heather Pyle
Production: 179 Cases
Alcohol: 14.9%
Brix: Average 26.0
pH: 3.70
Total Acidity: 6.4 g/L

Cabernet Sauvignon is the most iconic varietal grown in the Stags Leap District of Napa Valley and offers a distinctive, fruit focused, powerful yet soft version of this noble grape. We at Ilsley Vineyards are extremely proud of the 2009 offering. For us, the 2009 brought favorable weather, hang time and spring rain to allow us to make the best that the Ilsley vineyard's soils can offer. Sandwiched between the more sensational seasons of 2008 (frost) and 2010 (cool), 2009 has been somewhat overshadowed in the minds of some. Let us offer you this wine as a reminder of the great 2009 vintage.

Tasting notes

The 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon leads with intense black cherry and black berry on the nose. Cocoa powder and vanilla sit just behind the red fruit aromas. The color is inky as usual for Ilsley Vineyards Cabernet and that color is reflected in the concentration and power of the fruit on the palate. Cassis, ripe plum and black cherry burst out on the palate, followed by a warm, seasoned mid palate with hints of dark chocolate and a long finish that combines firm tannins with complex Cabernet fruit.

Vintage notes

2009 was our third consecutive season of below average rainfall. Fortunately there was enough late winter rains to begin the year with sufficient soil moisture so we saw nice early season growth. Spring was mild and provided ideal bloom time weather. A long cool Summer had just enough warm spells to fully ripen the fruit before the late October rains. As we often see, the lighter than average crop showed concentration and complexity as well as the silky Stags Leap tannins we expect from our hillside vineyards.

Ilsley Vineyards

Located in the Vaca Mountain foothills of Napa Valley's Stags Leap District lie the Ilsley Vineyards. For three generations our family has provided grapes for some of Napa Valley's finest wines. Now after fifty years of farming, we have hand-selected grapes from our hillside vineyards to produce our own Cabernet Sauvignon that we believe captures the essence of the Stags Leap District.

We are proud of our vineyards and the fruit that they bear.



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