



Francis Ford Coppola
DIRECTOR'S CUT

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2007 ALEXANDER VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



"Winemaking and filmmaking are two great art forms that are very important in the development of California. They both start with raw ingredients—in the case of wine, the land and the grapes, and in the case of film, the script and the actors' performances. The winemaker takes these raw materials and ferments and blends. He says yes to one batch, no to another. The director does the same thing: a series of yeses and noes, from casting and costuming to edits and sound mixes. In both cases you have to start with top notch raw materials—whether it's the land or a script." -Francis Ford Coppola

SHOWCASING THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER...

In the film business, the "Director's Cut" emerged as a means for filmmakers to present their own creative vision, when the final version of a film released by the studio differed from what the director had intended. When the Coppola family opened its winery in Sonoma County, they felt strongly about giving Director of Winemaking Corey Beck, a Sonoma native, the opportunity to make wines that reflected his own vision of the quintessential Sonoma County wine. Director's Cut became that endeavor—limited production, appellation-designate wines sourced from Sonoma's diverse and distinctive microclimates.

ALEXANDER VALLEY

Flanked on each side by hills and mountains, the Alexander Valley contains two distinct climates due to the long, narrow shape of the region. The southern part of the valley receives fog from the coast, making it cooler than the northern region, which isn't affected by marine influences. However, as the cool air moves north at the end of the day, the northern part of the valley cools down significantly by evening. This typically extends the growing season and promotes extremely well-balanced fruit. Additionally, there is a diversity of soils throughout the Alexander Valley, from red volcanic soils with high shale content on the eastern hillsides to alluvial gravel fans on the valley floor, and steep slopes of rocky clay loam on the western hillsides. This incredible diversity gives Alexander Valley the ability to grow a range of varieties from Chardonnay to Cabernet Sauvignon.

VINTAGE PROFILE

The 2007 vintage was a winemaker's dream, and, quite possibly, the vintage of a lifetime. An unusually dry winter gave way to a warm, dry spring, which significantly reduced the crop size. Conditions such as these typically produce very highly-concentrated grapes. Because there were no heat waves during the summer months, the fruit matured slowly and evenly. As a result, there was full phenolic development in our red fruit and an ideal level of ripeness, making it a perfect vintage for us. Harvest commenced in mid-August and ended on Halloween. We

had the luxury of slowly bringing in the fruit, picking small lots of fruit at a time — only when optimally ripe — because there was still no rain in sight. Even at harvest, we were amazed at how profusely aromatic and pronounced the flavors were.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Although it's common to blend small percentages of other red varieties into Cabernet Sauvignon to enhance its character, we prefer to craft a pure Cabernet for Director's Cut so you can experience true varietal character and the Alexander Valley terroir. Our 2007 Director's Cut Cabernet Sauvignon is highly fragrant, offering decadent aromas of cherries, blackberries and lavender. Striking flavors of raspberries, blueberries and plums are enlivened by exotic notes of clove, anise and cedar. Well-integrated tannins and a long, lush finish create the ultimate staging for this year's impeccable fruit. Though instantly drinkable, Director's Cut Cabernet will gain even more complexity in years to come.

Varietal: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Alcohol: 14.5%

Aging: 24 months in 50% new French oak, 50% 1-2 year old French oak barrels



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