

## 2006 Estate Bottled Cabernet Sauvignon



## Winemaker Notes

Dark, brooding mountain cabernet laced with chocolate, caramel and savory spices. Fruit flavors of blackberry, black currant and cassis dominate the aromas with a hint of minerality to add intrigue. Big, full-bodied entry with loads of chewy tannins and a re-statement of the black fruit, chocolate, licorice and stoney minerality on the palate. Excellent weight on the mid-palate, and though the tannins are compact and youthful, the finish remains elegant and persistent. Drink 2010 – 2020 or decant 2–3 hours before service. Jac Cole, January 2010.

## 2006 Vintage

The winter of 2006 gave us the wettest weather in Spring Mountain history, and a whopping 70 inches of rainfall. Bud break occurred late, near the third week of April. Warm springtime temperatures allowed rapid shoot growth. Bloom and veraison were delayed, and confirmed a later than normal harvest. Summer temperatures mimicked 2005 with an average June and a hot July. August and September were extremely pleasant with below normal temperatures that slowly ripened clusters. Heat in October brought the fruit to maturity and gave us a stellar vintage. Harvest was completed on November 8th.

## Spring Mountain Vineyard

Spring Mountain Vineyard is an 850 acre estate on the eastern slopes of Spring Mountain. Over 225 acres of the estate are planted to vine, representing 135 distinct hillside vineyard blocks with many soil types, exposures, and microclimates. Originally four individual 19th century Napa Valley vineyards, Miravalle, Alba, Chevalier and La Perla are now one vineyard producing exclusively estate grown wines. A substantial portion of the vineyard is planted in densities of over 4,000 vines per acre. Because of the diverse and challenging terrain, the vines are trained to the ancient *gobelet* form, a vertical training method invented in an earlier millennium by the Romans. Growing primarily Bordeaux grape varieties, the vineyard yields distinctive mountain wines that consistently display concentration, elegance and longevity. The quintessential wine from the estate is *Elivette*.