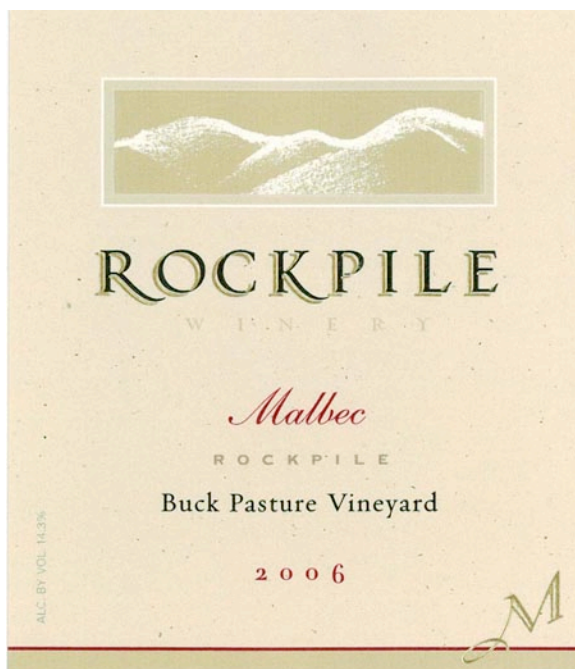


2006 Mauritson Rockpile Buck Pasture Vineyard Malbec



Production: Approximately 297 cases
Appellation: Rockpile
Composition: 77% Malbec, 13% Cab Franc,
10% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyards: Buck Pasture Vineyard
Alcohol: 14.3% by volume
Aging: 22 months oak barrels
80% French
20% American

Winemaker Notes

Back in the old days, when you wanted to find a big buck, you went to the area of the ranch called the Buck Pasture. These days you'll find more big wines than big bucks coming from the Buck Pasture. This block is planted at nearly 1,100 ft in elevation. The average slope in the vineyard is 25 degrees with sweeping Southwestern sun exposures. Comprised primarily of gravelly loam soils, there is very little water retention, limiting the vigor and yield of these vines. This area of our Rockpile property is perfectly suited for our Malbec.

Elegant yet powerful in the nose, this is quintessential Malbec. The initial aromas of ripe strawberries, dried fruit, and dust are complimented by wet dirt and herbs. The wine is fresh and vibrant on the front palate, with loads of red fruit and a dash of white pepper. The tannins of this Bordeaux varietal are present from start to finish, but without the normal astringency that can accompany it. Quite the opposite, the Rockpile Malbec exhibits a lush mouth feel with rich accents along the way. The youthful tannins on the finish make you aware that the wine will age gracefully for the next 8-10 years, but it is more than enjoyable now.

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