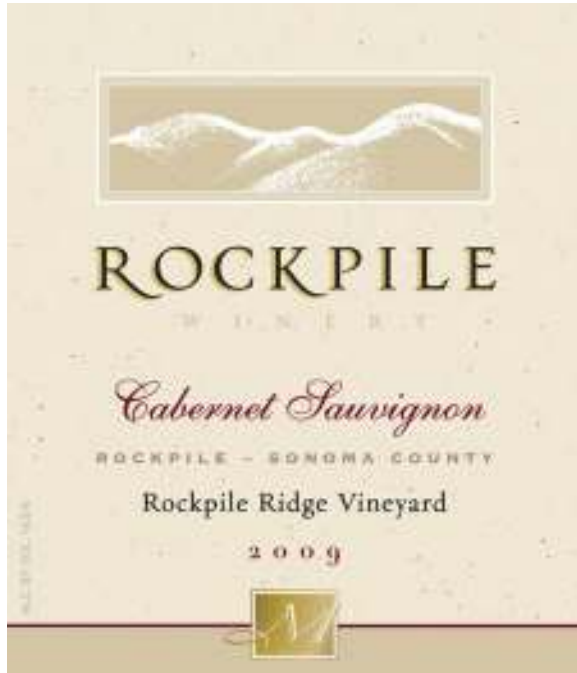


2009 Rockpile Cabernet Sauvignon Rockpile Ridge Vineyard



Production:	Approximately 299 cases
Appellation:	Rockpile
Composition:	85% Cabernet Sauvignon 10% Cabernet Franc 4% Merlot 1% Malbec
Vineyards:	Rockpile Ridge Vineyards
Alcohol:	14.5% by volume
Aging:	22 months in oak barrels 97% French 3% American

Winemaker Notes

2009 could not have been more perfect for the inaugural vintage of our Rockpile Cabernet Sauvignon, and to date is possibly one of the best vintages Rockpile has seen! Characterized by the third year of drought, the crop loads were dramatically lower than normal; our average yield was less than 3 tons per acre. The consistent warm weather throughout the growing season produced uniformly ripe fruit with intense flavors and rich tannins.

We grow all five Bordeaux varieties in Rockpile: Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec, and Petit Verdot. The fruit is all harvested individually and fermented separately to insure the integrity and uniqueness of the individual lots. Working with the different varieties, sun exposures, soil compositions, slopes and drainages is a winemaking dream come true!

On the nose there is a seamless bouquet of dark fruit, tobacco, earthen minerals, and sweet oak. Bold in every facet, intense flavors of dark cherry and plum give way to the more subtle nuances of chocolate, espresso and ripe olive. The depth of the 2009 Rockpile Cabernet Sauvignon is only overshadowed by its amazing balance, showing restrained acid on the finish. Prototypical of this appellation: broad and complex tannins give this wine the wherewithal to age gracefully for the next 9-11 years.

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