

Napa Valley includes many sub-appellations that contribute unique flavors to our 2007 wine. Every year we source from over 50 vineyards to blend our Napa Valley Cabernet. Each region in the valley contributes a berry flavor or structure that when blended tastes unlike any other valley in the world. This year our main components include Oak Knoll, Oakville, St. Helena and Rutherford.

In 2007 Napa Valley experienced a very dry winter and spring. Annual rainfall was only 60 percent of normal. Spring started early and the warm weather continued throughout the summer. The good news is the weather never got into terribly hot days of our typical summers. Only a few days found the valley with temperatures over 100 degrees. Around Labor Day, the valley did finally receive a bit of a heat spike. Fortunately, it only helped to develop sugar levels in the grapes and harvest started a couple of weeks later. As in 2007, harvest occurred at a leisurely pace. Then early rains appeared the second week of October to help bring a quick end to harvest. Most of the valley vineyards had been harvested by then, so only mountain vineyards remained to be picked. Luckily for us, all of our vineyards suffered little to no rain damage.

Harvest started early in the morning so the grapes arrived cool in temperature. After a gentle breaking of the skins, the grapes were fermented in stainless steel for approximately two weeks and then gently pressed. The wine aged for over 16 months in French and American oak before bottling.

The deep garnet color is the first indication of the wine's depth. Our 2007 wine exhibits aromas of raspberry, blackberry, mint and black cherries. Vanilla and short bread cookie notes from oak aging bring balance and frame the ripe berry flavors. Oak aging additionally adds breadth and weight on the palate. Napa Valley characteristics show through with strawberries, red raspberries and a faint root beer note with quintessential Oakville dark cherries. The tannins are fine and chalky. Finally, there is also a mineral/earthy note to the wine that contributes to the multi-layer characteristics of the wine. Supple, elegant and richly flavored in dark berries with a subtle note of oak; a classic Napa Valley wine.

Drink our 2007 Avalon Napa Valley Cabernet now or age it for the next few years and enjoy it as it continues to develop in the bottle.

AVALON

NAPA VALLEY
CABERNET SAUVIGNON

VINTAGE 2007



Composition: 85% Cabernet Sauvignon
8% Merlot
4% Cabernet Franc
3% Petite Syrah

Stats: Alc. 13.8%, ph 3.89, TA 5.2