

AVALON

CALIFORNIA
CABERNET SAUVIGNON

VINTAGE 2007



Composition: 78% Cabernet Sauvignon
8% Merlot
7% Syrah
2% Petite Syrah

Stats: Alc. 13.5%, ph 3.89, TA 4.9

Avalon produces only Cabernet Sauvignon. For our 2007 California selection, Winemaker Alex Cose concentrated on coastal vineyards stretching the length of California. Grapes from Santa Barbara, Paso Robles, Monterey and Mendocino County were selected and comprise over 80 percent of the blend. A small amount of Napa grapes also made it into this year's blend as well as some fruit from the San Joaquin delta area.

Vintage 2007 started with yet another early spring in the north while the Central Coast had a cold, dry winter and late spring. Short winter rains impacted vines throughout the state. Indeed, it turned out to be the start of our latest series of drought years. Summer temperatures continued to be chilly and bumped harvest into late September, October and even the first week of November.

The long growing season that stretched into the fall helped to fully ripen grape flavors and push the intensity to that of berry jam or cherry pie filling. The lack of rainfall and previous year's weather led to a low fruit set and smaller berries that contributed to better juice to skin ratios for better color and concentrated flavors. Alex additionally soaked the grapes for three days to additionally pull out color and fruit flavors. All these factors are why many are very excited about the possibilities of a superior vintage.

After approximately two weeks of primary fermentation, the wine was pressed. We then aged the wine in French and American oak barrels for 16 months before bottling.

Our blend for this vintage included Central Coast Cabernet with jammy raspberry; Mendocino Merlot with its juicy black cherries; and Syrah for a touch of boysenberries. The nose shows a fruit salad of blackberry, raspberry and plums, with a hint of lavender. Oak aging adds a touch of nutmeg, cinnamon, and toasted almond notes. The wine drinks of juicy black fruit, soothing dark chocolate and cherry pie nuances that linger on the palate. The wine shows integrated soft tannins with oak that never overpowers the rich, concentrated berry flavors that form the core of this wine

A supple and easy drinking Cabernet for any and all occasions both big and small.