



2009 EL DORADO RESERVE CABERNET FRANC

Sources: Gold Hill Vineyard and Sauber Vineyard, El Dorado County

Harvest Dates: Sept 29, 2009 / Oct 25, 2009

Brix at Harvest: 28.5 & 25.5

Time in Barrel: 18 months

Type of Oak: Neutral French & American

Alcohol: 15.5%

Bottled: April 21, 2011

Production: 417 cases

Winemaker's Notes: 2009 marked the 14th harvest of one of Crystal Basin Cellars flagship wines. Cabernet Franc is primarily from the Gold Hill Vineyard in El Dorado County which overlooks the American River Canyon. The vineyard enjoys warm days and cooling breezes at night. This micro-climate allows an optimal ripening cycle and showcases a glowing example of the intense flavors possible from the Sierra Foothills Cabernet Franc grapes. The Sauber Vineyard is on the southern end of El Dorado County and has perfect ripening conditions and acclimation for Cab Franc.

This wine is made in a minimalist winemaking style following traditional methods; as well this wine shows aromas of lavender, violets and rose petals along with a rich black cherry backbone.

Often used for blending, our Cabernet Franc is far better on its own – it is consistently one of Crystal Basin Cellars favorites. Previous vintages of Crystal Basin Cellars Cabernet Franc have won numerous major awards in wine competitions and this one should prove to be no exception.

This wine will benefit from a bit of time in the bottle to mellow the tannins and transform the intense fruit forward style of the wine to a smooth as silk elegant example of this right bank Bordeaux classic. This Cabernet Franc should peak 18 to 24 months after release and last for over 5 years in your cellar.