



## 2009 STICKYBEAK CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEMAKER : Wayne Donaldson  
REGION : Napa Valley - Oak Knoll District and Pope Valley  
VARIETALS : Cabernet Sauvignon 83%, Merlot 17%  
MATURATION : 18 months in French oak (50% new)  
ANALYSIS : 14.1% alc/vol | TA: 4.7 g/L | pH: 3.84

### VITICULTURE :

Our objective is to create a seamless Cabernet Sauvignon - nothing overdone, especially the oak. To achieve this, we sought vineyards from both the benches around Yountville, in the Oak Knoll District specifically, and the high reaches of the eastern hills in Pope Valley. The blend of earthy, fruit driven Cabernet from the valley floor combined with chiseled hillside tannins and acidity is very appealing. This, along with a small parcel of Merlot, gave us our desired palate weight and texture.

### WINEMAKING :

After harvest, which took place on October 9th and 21st, it's really hands off as much as possible. A brief 3 day cold soak followed by a week-long fermentation and then a two week post ferment maceration is all it takes to get the ball rolling. The varietals are kept separate during their 18 month maturation before final blending and bottling.

### TASTING NOTES :

The aromas are perfumed violets, blackberries, dark cherries and cedary spice. The long, rich palate is finely structured and expresses brambly dark fruit characters and high toned cherry notes alongside hints of dark cocoa and licorice. All flavors are pulled together nicely with fine grained tannins.

### CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

**89 pts** Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

ABOUT THAT NAME . . . Ever been curious enough to stick your nose over someone's fence to see what's going on? Or peer through a crack in a front gate, just to get a better look? We have! Some people might say we're busybodies or nosey neighbors although we prefer the Australian term, 'stickybeak.' And being Napa-based wine folk, it's hard to resist being curious about the stunning wines and regions that surround us. In fact, as inquisitive vintners, it seemed only natural that we'd have a bit of a stickybeak in our own backyard to see what we could find.



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