



2006 Estate Malbec Stags Leap District, Napa Valley

Steltzner Vineyards & Stags Leap District

Stags Leap District is a unique place to farm grapes. Often called a valley within the Napa Valley, the Stags Leap District is influenced by cool evening breezes from the San Pablo Bay and rocky volcanic soils. Combined with our eastern exposure this is an ideal place for growing grapes. Our family has been farming this land since 1965.

Malbec

This wine has been a favorite for us here at Steltzner Vineyards since we started the program with the 2004 vintage. The 2006 vintage marks a turning point of sorts as it is the first vintage where we had enough Petite Verdot from our estate to be able to use some to create this blend. The Malbec is from our 1 acre vineyard while the Petite Verdot is from the first harvest of a 1.5 acre block; both are located in our estate vineyards in the Stags Leap District of the Napa Valley. The lots were picked at what we felt was the optimum ripeness to achieve the mouth feel and intensity of flavors that we were looking for.

Color

Rich, deep red hues, fading into purple & black.

Nose

Floral aromas combine with mineral notes, and fruit aromas of blueberries, blackberries & cherries. There is a nice smoky barrel character with notes of cream, sage & baking spice.

Mouth

Balanced across the whole palate, with soft, well-integrated tannins, that provides structure and a nice lingering finish. Ripe fruit flavors of cherries, and black fruits along with some spicy notes.

Technical Data

Release Date ∞ July 2009

Harvest Date ∞ October 24, 2006

Brix at Harvest: 24.7 Brix

Wine Data

TA: .65

PH: 3.68

Alcohol: 14.3%

Fermentation: 10-15 days average

Barrel Ageing: 16 months

Mixed French Oak

Blend:

98% Estate Malbec

2% Estate Petit Verdot

Cases Produced: 422

Winemaker: Tim Dolven