

ARRIETA

Napa, California

Cabernet Sauvignon



Grape Variety: 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

Vinification Process: Under winemaker Andy Erickson's watchful eye, careful sorting, native yeast fermentation, a long, controlled maceration, minimal racking, and avoidance of fining and filtration enhanced the intensity, length, and "bloom" of the wine. The 2008 Arietta Cabernet Sauvignon will benefit from five or more years of cellaring, with the ideal window for drinking from about eight to fifteen years after the vintage.

Description: This wine produces aromas of graphite, sage, and cassis, and flavors of rich currant imbued with a subtle minerality, all housed in a structured and ageworthy frame.

Bright, saturated ruby. Vibrant aromas of black fruits and licorice. Densely packed and shapely, with good floral complexity and definition to the highly concentrated dark fruit and mineral flavors. A very young and gripping cabernet with noble tannins and superb length.

Food Pairing: Excellent with strong cheeses, red sauces, and beef.

Alcohol: 14.1%

Production: 1,440 bottles

Awards: Steven Tanzer rated the 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon 93-95 points. Robert Parker rated the 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon 91 points.

Additional Winery Information: Arietta is our name for wines born of a passion for music. The name Arietta, meaning short aria or art song, expresses our belief that all great wines must sing. Both wine and song should "take flight," in the course of which the qualities of balance, vibrancy, depth, overtones, and complexity resonate and give us a sense of exaltation.

A classically balanced expression of Napa Valley, the Arietta Cabernet Sauvignon exhibits the hallmark characteristics of this variety from the southern end of the Valley: Arietta's extraordinary two acre block of Cabernet Sauvignon, located in the cooler climes of Coombsville, is the core of this blend. A substantial dollop of Cabernet Franc from the Hudson Vineyard in Carneros and a hint of Petit Verdot add high notes and bass tones to the Arietta Cabernet Sauvignon.