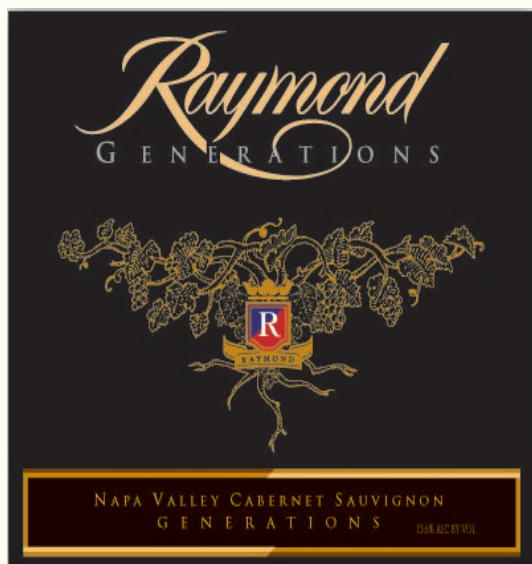




2006 GENERATIONS NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: NAPA VALLEY

VARIETAL: 100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

ALCOHOL: 14.5% BY VOL.

PH: 3.74

TA: 6.9 G/L

FERMENTATION: 23 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK

RELEASE DATE: FEBRUARY 2010

CASE PRODUCTION: 1,590 CASES

IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes for the Generations Cabernet Sauvignon come from our estate vineyards in nearby Rutherford and St. Helena as well as select nearby growers. The estate vineyards are located on the valley floor with gravelly alluvial fan soils and good drainage, ideal for growing high quality Cabernet Sauvignon. By blending grapes from both the St. Helena and Rutherford appellations, we are able to make a wine that represents the best of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

The 2006 vintage began with a delayed bud break due to wet weather in the spring. June was a typical month, as the sun warmed the earth, and the vines began to bloom and set fruit. A late start to the season resulted in canopies not yet thinned when a 10-day heat wave hit in July, so the young clusters were shaded from the hot sun. Cooler weather arrived in August and continued throughout harvest, allowing for a moderately paced and deliberate ripening.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

Generations is a tribute to the Raymond family's five generations of winemaking in the Napa Valley. This limited production wine is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon and the winery's ultimate expression of this varietal.

During harvest, grapes from different vineyards were kept in separate lots through sorting, crushing, fermentation and aging. Grapes were fermented on the skins for 14 days, then moved to new, tight-grained Nevers medium toast oak barrels for 23 months of aging before blending. Tighter grain Nevers barrels impart their oak influences to the Cabernet Sauvignon. Only our best barrels are selected to become part of this blend.

WINE PROFILE

Deep garnet in color with rich upfront aromas of black cherry, blackberry, blueberry and boysenberry with hints of black pepper, earth and espresso followed by blackberry concentrate, red cherry, red currant, blueberry, black plum, black pepper and dark chocolate flavors. Well-structured with integrated tannins and a silky smooth finish touched with luscious vanilla.

This wine pairs amazingly well with a juicy filet mignon or rib eye steak with sautéed mushrooms, roast duck breast with figs, braised beef short ribs, rack of lamb, wild game or Coq Au Vin. Generations Cabernet Sauvignon is delicious at release with the potential to age 15-20 years past the vintage date.