

# SWANSON

## VINEYARDS

### 2008 SWANSON "ALEXIS" NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

#### VINTAGE:

2008 was a low-yielding vintage, in terms of clusters of Cabernet Sauvignon per vine, in Napa Valley. As a result, all of our 2008 red wines are concentrated and have very focused aromas and flavors. The spring was very dry and cold, with 24 days of frost. Summer was cool, with just a few heat spikes in August. We harvested our Cabernet in early October at optimum tannin and flavor ripeness.

#### VINEYARD:

The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes for this wine were sourced from four very select vineyard blocks: two in Rutherford, one in Yountville and one in Oakville. With the Merlot from Oakville and the Petit Verdot—a first for the Alexis blend—grown in the Oak Knoll district. All grapes were sustainably farmed on well-drained alluvial soils.

#### WINEMAKER NOTES:

The 2008 Swanson Alexis Cabernet Sauvignon has a deep ruby color. The wine was not fined nor filtered, in order to maintain maximum flavor intensity and texture. On the nose, super-ripe black cherry and cassis mingle with blackberry and plum. Initial flavor is juicy, with sweeter concentrated black fruits, yielding to a firm, yet balanced underlayment of ripe, supple tannins and integrated French oak. Overall, the wine exhibits what we consistently strive for in making Alexis Cabernet—layers of nuanced flavors, a velvety texture and a persistent finish. This wine will continue to age gracefully through at least 2020.

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#### COMPOSITION:

86% Cabernet Sauvignon  
12% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot

#### HARVEST DATE:

Cabernet Sauvignon: October 10th-14th  
Merlot: September 8th  
Petit Verdot: October 1st

#### BRIX AT HARVEST:

25.5 average

#### pH AT BOTTLING:

3.62

#### ALCOHOL:

14.8%

#### BARREL REGIME:

22 months in 100%  
French oak barrels, 60% new

#### BOTTLING:

May 12, 2010

