



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2005 Barrel Blend

Production: 2085 cases

Composition: 56% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Syrah

Vineyards: Soda Canyon, Beau Terre, Stewart, Red Door, Bianchini, Kidde, Rocca

Appellation: Napa Valley

Elevation: Soda Canyon 1200 ft, Valley floor

Vine Age: 4 to 8 years

Cooperage: 16 months in 10% new French Oak, 10% new Hungarian Oak

Alcohol: 14.8%, TA 0.58, pH 3.69

The 2005 Hill Family Estate Barrel Blend is a combination of different vineyards. We utilized mountain Cabernet Sauvignon from Soda Canyon and Bianchini, along with valley floor Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon from the Beau Terre, Stewart and Red Door Vineyards. The mountain grapes have intensity and finesse and the valley floor grapes have plushy, friendly palates. At the very last, we added 5% of our Syrah which really tied things together. Though all the lots were very good wines, the resulting blend is greater than its parts – a really exciting wine.

Winemaker Alison Doran's Tasting notes:

The nose has a great Wow factor – unmistakably Napa in its elegance, but with an earthy blackberry and vanilla appeal that really makes you want to take a sip. And the palate is lovely, balanced, seductive and interesting, with plushy berry fruit and vanilla scented oak playing backup on tannins.