



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2006 Barrel Blend

Production: 985 cases

Composition: 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, 5% Syrah

Vineyards: 34 %Beau Terre, 30% Baker, 17% 3 Hills, 10% Glendale and 9% Red Door

Appellation: Napa Valley

Elevation: Soda Canyon 1200 ft. 30%, Valley floor 70%

Cooperage: 24 months in 20% new French Oak, 10% new Hungarian Oak, 5%

American Oak

Alcohol: 15.6%, TA 0.60, pH 3.76

The 2006 Hill Family Estate Barrel Blend is a combination of mountain Cabernet from Soda Canyon and valley floor Merlot and Cabernet from the Beau Terre Vineyard and from a few other small select vineyards. This wine was put together with the help of Kyle Knox, a great surfer and a wine drinker, who loved the idea of “being in the barrel” as both a wine term and a surfing term. This wine was blended to appeal to surfers, and surfers in spirit, who are always looking for the next great wave, but might want to have a glass of wine in the mean time. 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. The Barrel Blend spent 2 years in the barrel, giving it an evolution of character most wines cannot hope to reach.

Winemaker Alison Doran’s Tasting notes:

The nose has a great Wow factor – unmistakably Napa in its elegance, but with an earthy blackberry, white sage, and vanilla-spice appeal that really makes you want to take a sip. Soft black cherry fruit opens to creamy but powerful blackberry flavors, melting tannins, and a clean easy finish.