



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2005 Cabernet Sauvignon

Production: 896 cases

Composition: 94% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Merlot (Raucedo Clone)

Vineyards: Baker Vineyard, Beau Terre and Coombsville Vineyard

Appellation: Atlas Peak, Oak Knoll, and Napa Valley

Elevation: Baker Vineyard 1500 ft., Beau Terre 30 ft., and Coombsville 45 ft.

Cooperage: 15 months in oak barrels (40% new oak of which 20% was American)

Alcohol: 15%, TA 0.63, pH 3.68

Winemaker's Comments: Skill and experience were paramount to pull the most out of our vineyards in 2005. Late rains, fog and cool temperatures during the fall combined to make this very challenging vintage. Our Cabernet grapes finally ripened nicely, with final Brix in the high 25s and mid 26s, but it was a nail biter, with the mountain vineyards coming in on Halloween with rain just starting to fall. Color held well, and the lovely black fruit notes came out early and just needed to be preserved with gentle treatment and careful blending, backed up with judicious toasty oak.

Winemaker Alison Doran's Tasting notes:

Nose: Deep, ripe, cassis and blackberry, intriguing black licorice and briary garrigue aromas; almost a molasses intensity of depth.

Palate: Wow! Lovely, ripe, full bodied, and balanced. Fruit forward and very elegant, supported by strong oak tannins in the middle. But the overall impression is of the rich black cherry and black berry with an evolving tapered finish.

