

## 2005 Elivette

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Appellation:</b> | Napa Valley—Spring Mountain District<br>Estate Grown and Bottled         |
| <b>Assemblage:</b>  | Cabernet Sauvignon 81%, Cabernet<br>Franc 7%, Petit Verdot 7%, Merlot 5% |
| <b>Alcohol:</b>     | 14.2%  |
| <b>Aging:</b>       | 22 Months in French Oak  |
| <b>Bottled:</b>     | August 2007  |
| <b>Released:</b>    | September 2009   |
| <b>Production:</b>  | 3,300 Cases  |



### Winemaker Notes

Rich depth of color and aromas of spices and concentrated candied fruit layer with raspberry, cherry, cassis and currant. Finely integrated oak aromas marry and intertwine the fruit to add complexity and depth. The wine is full and rich on the attack with dense coated tannins. Darker flavors of cocoa and espresso emerge to add even greater variety to the experience. As the wine opens, more and more intriguing elements unfold like hints of anise, toasted almonds, raspberry jam and a mineral earthiness. The mid-palate is weighty and chewy. The finish is long and complex. The 2005 will age gracefully for 10 to 20 years. In its youth, it will benefit from decanting.

### 2005 Vintage

The 2005 vintage gave us graceful wines of stature and quality. In many ways, it bears a marked resemblance to the bountiful 1997 vintage. The growing season began with plentiful springtime rainfall and cool temperatures that slowed veraison. Summer temperatures were very warm with a few heat spikes in July, followed by moderate weather through November, allowing for slow and even ripening. Harvest began on September 20 – more than a month later than 2004 – and concluded with a final day of picking on November 8.

### Spring Mountain Vineyard

Spring Mountain Vineyard is an 850 acre estate on the eastern slopes of Spring Mountain. Over 225 acres of the estate are planted to vine, representing 135 distinct hillside vineyard blocks with many soil types, exposures, and microclimates. Originally four individual 19<sup>th</sup> century Napa Valley vineyards, Miravalle, Alba, Chevalier and La Perla are now one vineyard producing exclusively estate grown wines. A substantial portion of the vineyard is planted in densities of over 4,000 vines per acre. Because of the diverse and challenging terrain, the vines are trained to the ancient *gobelet* form, a vertical trellising method invented in an earlier millennium by the Romans. Growing primarily Bordeaux grape varieties, the vineyard yields distinctive mountain wines of concentration, elegance and longevity. The ultimate viticultural and artistic expression of the vineyard is *Elivette*.