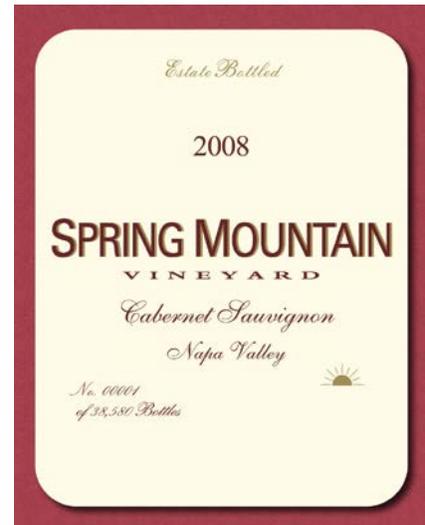




## 2008 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

<b>Appellation:</b>	Napa Valley–Spring Mountain District
<b>Assemblage:</b>	Cabernet Sauvignon 78%, Cabernet Franc 10%, Petit Verdot 7%, Merlot 5%
<b>Aging:</b>	22 months in 100% new French oak from Taransaud, Saury, Quintessence, Le Grand
<b>Bottled:</b>	August 2010
<b>Released:</b>	January 2012
<b>Production:</b>	3,215 Cases



### Tasting Notes from Winemaker Jac Cole

*December 2011.* Abundant aromas of cherry, raspberry and chocolate layer with floral notes and an array of spices – clove, cinnamon, black pepper and vanilla. Full-bodied, elegant and integrated on the palate, the wine delivers an ample mix of concentrated black and red fruit berries, plums, and cranberries. Silky tannins support a mid-palate that has more layers than a mille-feuille. An elongated finish echoes the fruit and notes of chocolate and spice. Approachable now but will reward cellaring. In its youth, decant for a least an hour to fully open the many layers of this wine. Drink 2012 to 2025.

### 2008 Vintage

2008 continued the dry pattern begun in 2007, making it the second year in a 3-year drought cycle in Napa Valley. Overall yields were down by about 35%, partly due to low rainfall and hot weather in August and September, but set up by an April frost that damaged new growth at the higher elevations. Fortunately, a new Mistral triple sorting system was in place at harvest to glean only the highest quality fruit. The resulting wines are balanced and show intense, concentrated flavors and aromas.

### 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 training method invented in an earlier millennium by the Romans. Growing primarily Bordeaux grape varieties, the vineyard yields distinctive mountain wines that consistently display concentration, elegance and longevity. The quintessential wine from the estate is *Elivette*.