



2006 Estate Bottled Pinot Noir

Appellation:	Napa Valley–Spring Mountain District
Vineyard:	La Perla
Clones:	Pommard 5 and 115
Varietal:	Pinot Noir 100%
Aging:	18 Months in French Oak Barrels
Bottled:	February 6, 2008
Alcohol:	14.4%
Production:	425 Cases



Winemaker Notes

The aromas of sweet spices, preserved cherries, caramel and an earthy note of sous-bois are typical of Pinot Noir on Spring Mountain. On the palate, lively red cherry and red licorice creates a bright entry. The nuance of violets and a smoky hint of bacon layer this mouth-filling Pinot. Lingering red fruit flavors and spices round out the wine. Available only at the winery.

2006 Vintage

The 2006 vintage began with the wettest weather recording in St. Helena's history! Our vineyards received a whopping 70 inches of rainfall in December and January. Budbreak occurred on the late side, near the third week of April. Warm springtime temperatures allowed rapid shoot growth and helped the vines catch up. Bloom and veraison were also on the late side and confirmed a later than normal harvest. Summer temperatures mimicked 2005 with an average June and a blistering July. August and September were extremely pleasant with below normal temperatures. Heat in October was just what we needed to finally ripen the crop and make this a stellar vintage. Harvest began on September 20th and finished on November 8th.

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 19th century Napa Valley vineyards, Miravalle, Alba, Chevalier and La Perla are now one vineyard producing estate bottled 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*.