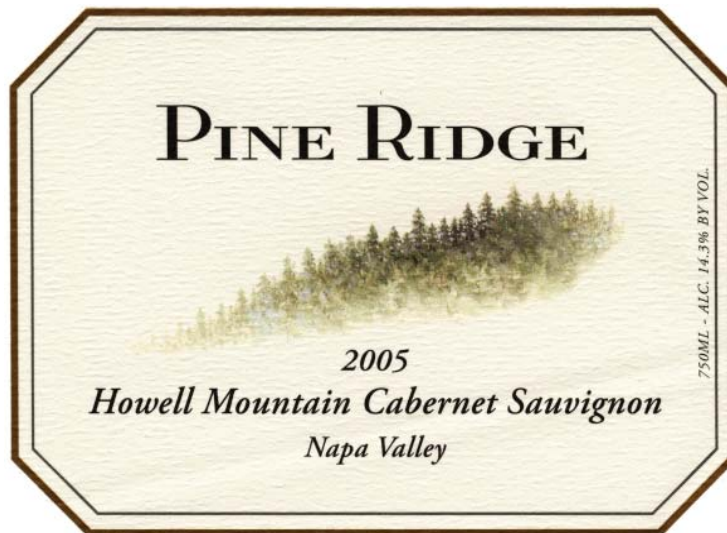


PINE RIDGE



2005 HOWELL MOUNTAIN **CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

ORIGIN: The robust yet graceful 2005 Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon is a blend of 98% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Malbec and 1% Merlot. The firm tannins and concentration of hillside grown fruit are trademarks of this complex, intense and elegantly balanced wine.

VINEYARD: The low yielding vineyard is located on a steep hillside at the 2,000 ft. elevation on Howell Mountain, a small, unique appellation in northeastern Napa Valley. The climate contributes to a long hang time, resulting in optimal ripeness and tannin maturity.

WINEMAKING: This vintage we continued to hand-sort both clusters and individual berries prior to a light crush. The fruit was harvested by hand on October 13, 2005, and macerated on the skins for 28 and 29 days. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation in the barrel and was aged for 17 months in new, heavily-toasted French oak barrels. The wine was bottled without fining in July 2007.

TASTING NOTES: The 2005 Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon flaunts a classic nose of sweet, ripe blackberry and black cherry fruit, deepened by hints of bittersweet chocolate, mineral, fresh herbs and spice. The flavors on the palate emphasize these characteristics, adding nuances of preserved cherry and vanilla. Youthful tannins are firm but smooth, prolonging the juicy fruit flavors throughout a long and dramatic finish. This wine may be enjoyed now or cellared for up to 15 years.

A limited quantity of only 585 cases were produced in addition to 1.5 and 3L formats.