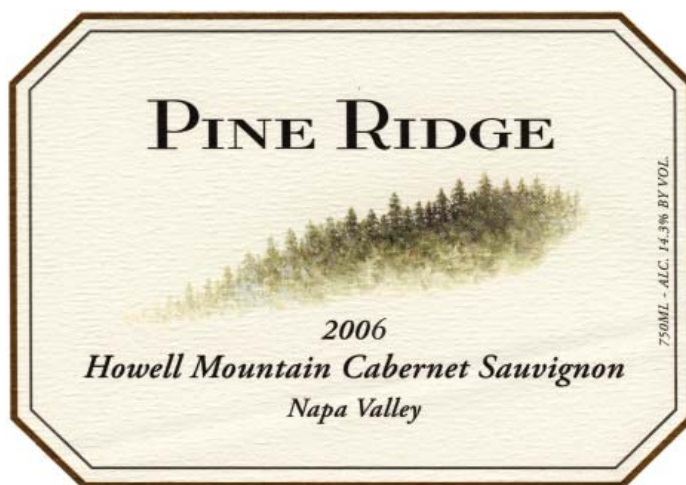


PINE RIDGE



2006 HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

ORIGIN: The 2006 Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon is an robust, yet graceful, blend of 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot, 4% 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 in October 2006, and macerated on the skins for 27 and 29 days. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation in the barrel and was aged for 15 months in new, heavily-toasted French oak barrels. The wine was bottled without fining in July 2008.

TASTING NOTES: The latest Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon displays its usual complexity with lush aromas of blackberry, dark cherry, white pepper and tobacco with hints of brown sugar and toffee from the well-integrated oak. These characteristics are emphasized on the palate, with added nuances of currant liqueur, smoke and tarry minerality. Firm but smooth tannins and moderate acidity prolongs the powerful flavors throughout a long and dramatic finish. This wine may be enjoyed now or cellared for up to 15 years.