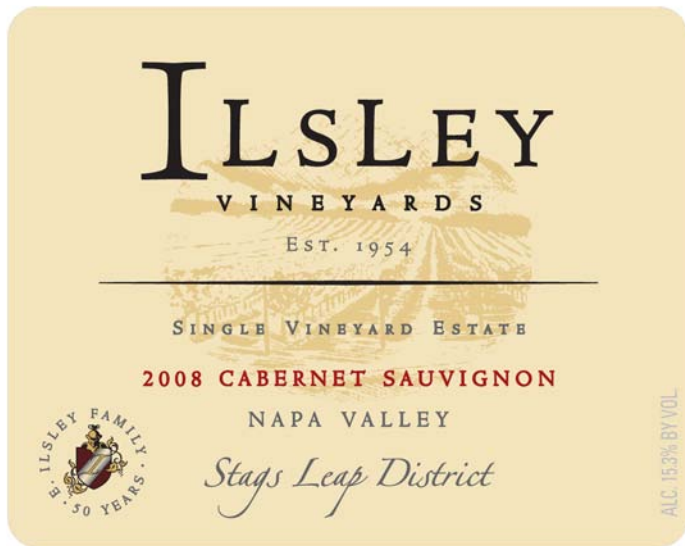


# ILSLEY

VINEYARDS

EST. 1954

## ILSLEY VINEYARDS TASTING NOTES 2008 CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Vintage: 2008

Appellation: Stags Leap District

Blend: 87% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
5% Malbec, 5% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

Winemaker: Craig MacLean

Production: 144 Cases

Harvest Date: Cabernet mid-October

Brix: Average 25.4

ph: 3.66

The Napa Valley is renowned for its fine Cabernet Sauvignons and Stags Leap in particular produces wines with focus, vibrancy and excellent aging potential. There is a purity about the aromas and flavors of Stags Leap Cabernets that make them recognizable among wines from other soil types and climates. We are proud to release this wine, most reflective of our appellation, each year.

### Tasting notes

The 2008 Ilsley Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon is inky dark with bright violet just at the rim of wine in the glass. The aroma begins with blackberry, black cherry and ripe raspberry all rolled into one. Spices warm the nose with clove, nutmeg and vanilla scents. After an entry of firm, ripe tannins, the flavors are bright with ripe plum and cassis. The structured mid palate is very good for aging and the finish lingers on the palate with a warm spiciness.

### Vintage notes

Each season, Mother Nature seems to present us with a different challenge. For 2008 it was a dry winter followed by the coolest spring in years. Fortunately we escaped any significant frost damage. Irrigation began weeks earlier than normal but by summer the weather settled into the typical pattern of foggy mornings and hot afternoons, perfect for Cabernet Sauvignon. The lack of early season rains resulted in small clusters with small berries producing fruit with outstanding complexity and maturity. Harvest began in late September and was over by mid October, long before the fall rains began

### Ilsley Vineyards

Located in the Vaca Mountain foothills of Napa Valley's Stags Leap District lie the Ilsley Vineyards. For three generations our family has provided grapes for some of Napa Valley's finest wines. Now after fifty years of farming, we have hand-selected grapes from our hillside vineyards to produce our own Cabernet Sauvignon that we believe captures the essence of the Stags Leap District.

**We are proud of our vineyards and the fruit that they bear.**



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