

VIADER

NAPA VALLEY

2011 VIADER Estate Limited Edition "Black Label"

ABOUT THE "BLACK LABEL":

The VIADER Estate Limited Edition, a.k.a. "Black Label" comes entirely from our estate vineyard on Howell Mountain, representing our magnificent mountain's terroir. Each variety – Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Cabernet Franc and Malbec – contributes its unique characteristics and their sum creates the ultimate luxurious experience for your palate.

TASTING NOTES:

This blend opens with sweet, bright fruit – red cherry, sugar plum, and fresh ripe blackberry – and hints of dried flowers recalling roses. Very nice mouthfeel on the palate, elegant in structure, with a silky smooth texture from start to finish. Loads of black pepper and smoke with some dark toasty barrel notes, sweet oak flavors and caramel. Bright lift on the finish, with great acidity that brings the rich red fruit back on the finish... Completely mouthwatering!

VARIETAL COMPONENTS: 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Syrah, 12% Cabernet Franc, 3% Malbec

WINEMAKERS: Delia & son Alan Viader

APPELLATION: Napa Valley (Estate Grown, Produced & Bottled)

PRODUCTION: 450 cases

HISTORY:

On the VIADER estate, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc have been cultivated since 1986, and we have over a decade of experience growing Syrah on Howell Mountain. However, only in 2004 did we start producing Malbec. Alan Viader planted under a 1/4 acre on the estate after spending a harvest in Mendoza, Argentina where Malbec is the region's most distinctive grape. Although our yields are depressingly small, the wine produced from our estate Malbec expands with blackberry and soft supple tannins that envelop the palate. In the "Black Label" blend, our Argentinean Malbec is kind of like the "pinch" of salt that brings everything together!

2011 GROWING SEASON:

This year brought a couple surprise showers in both June and October, but due to our afternoon sun-exposure and mountain drainage, 2011 blessed us with a quality crop with expressive aromatics and fine tannins. The fruit was able to ripen slowly but evenly, reaching desired Brix numbers and tannin maturation without issues. Alan Viader said, "This type of weather makes me thankful that I live and grow grapes in Napa Valley. This vintage should produce some Napa Valley classics for sure."

