



Harvest & Varietal Information

VINEYARD: 100% Cain Vineyard, Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley

VARIETIES: 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot, 5% Malbec

PRODUCTION: 4,263 cases RELEASE DATE: January 1, 2015

Estate Grown—Estate Bottled

The **2010 Cain Five** is dense and concentrated without being heavy. It is probably the most tightly wound Cain Five since the 1994. The key point is that even though it will easily last another twenty years, you can drink it today. If you do, it's best if you decant the wine into a carafe to give it some air and let it breathe and relax. Everything is in place; it could only come from the Cain Vineyard, with its perfume and satin-smooth mouth-feel. You're sure to recognize the unmistakable signature of flowers, berries, herbs, tar—all layered on a lovely earthy background. This is an exotic wine, quite unlike the big sweet Napa Cabs we all know.

Many people say that the wines of Cain are distinct. I have heard it said that, "They dance across your tongue." When everything comes together—the vineyard, the vintage, the winemaking, the wine, the food, the company, the moment—this is our goal, and it could not be farther away from the point system. Follow the "points" and you're sure to get substance and power. But, eventually, you might begin to suspect that something is missing. That something missing is what beckons you back to the Cain Five for another taste that refreshes your palate and holds your attention.

The wines that intrigue us come from a different point of view. Of course, they begin in the vineyard, and this is a key to the originality of each wine, but it doesn't end there. The 2010 Cain Five reminds me of one of my favorite themes: wine is the result of fermentation. We begin in the Cain Vineyard, which grows grapes like no other. The wine is revealed in the cellar—slowly, step by step. Yes, here is the essence of fruit, and yet, it goes far beyond. Wine—at least the wines we're interested in—transcend their origins in the fruit. There is so much more complexity here than simply fruit. And yet, it is not the "product" of our winemaking either. Magic has occurred. We don't know who, how or why, but we know that it has, and we know enough to let it happen.

About Cain Vineyard & Winery

Cain Vineyard & Winery overlooks St. Helena from the top of Spring Mountain in the western mountains of Napa Valley. The estate vineyard is planted to the classic set of five varieties: Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec, and Petit Verdot. We make three wines: Cain Cuvée; Cain Concept, representing the classical benchlands of the Napa Valley; and our signature blend, Cain Five.

Christopher Howell, Winemaker/General Manager