

CUDA RIDGE *Wines*

Winemakers Notes: **2008 Cabernet Franc**
 Livermore Valley

Description: This is an elegant and complex wine from start to finish. Subtle fruit, spice and minerality on the nose is interspersed with light oak. Soft mouth feel with structured tannins and evolving flavors on palate makes this a wine to sit back, relax, and enjoy.

Varietals: 90% Cabernet Franc (Mel's Ranch and Quail Creek), 5% Triska Crane Ridge Merlot, 3% Galles Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Smith Ranch Petit Verdot

Awards: 90 Points – Wine Enthusiast
 Gold Medal – 2011 SF Chronicle Wine Competition
 Silver Medal – 2001 Best of the Bay Wine Competition

Cases Produced: 131

Harvested: October 15, 2008

Barrel Treatment: Barrel aged for 18 months, 85% new oak (50% French, 50% American); and 15% Neutral Oak.

Vineyard Information: Cuda Ridge sourced the Cabernet Franc from Mel's Ranch (4 barrels) and Quail Ridge (1 barrel) The Petit Verdot is from the Smith Ranch Vineyard. Cuda Ridge selects the rows and determines the harvest date for the respective rows. The grapes are hand harvested early in the morning, delivered to the winery, and crushed before noon. Smith Ranch is a Wente vineyard located on the Westerly side of Livermore on Wetmore Road. The Smith Ranch vineyard is mostly flat and the vines are planted East/West orientation on VSP trellis. Because of the western location of the vineyard it gets some early morning fog which quickly burns off. The Cabernet Franc is usually picked in the middle of harvest and the Petit Verdot is at the very end of harvest. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot vineyards are located on the eastern side of Livermore.

Vital Statistics:

Al 14.2% Alcohol by Volume
TA .66
pH 3.81

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