



TRIVIUM

“Les Ivrettes Vineyard”

2008

St. Helena ♦ Napa Valley
Cabernet Sauvignon

Produced & Bottled by Stanfield & Stuart Wine Company



The 2008 season began with short-lived winter storms and the second dry spring in a row, with little more than 60 percent of normal rainfall. This contributed to early budbreak, followed by three weeks of severe frost, the worst in years. Low-lying areas were hard-hit, but Les Ivrettes, perched on St. Helena’s western benchland terrace, escaped with no damage. Fruit set in May and June was off by as much as 25 percent. Summer temperatures were cool, but even so, harvest began early. A classic Labor Day heat wave got things rolling in earnest, and we harvested six and two thirds tons of small-berried, concentrated Cabernet Sauvignon on September 9.

After hand-harvesting, grapes were sorted, destemmed, placed in a small open-top fermenter, and punched down two or three times a day for 20 days, reaching a peak temperature of 85° F. The wine was then drained, gently pressed and barreled down, completing malolactic fermentation just a month later. It aged 20 months in casks, of which 71 percent were new and 86 percent French. Released after 16 months in bottle, Trivium benefits from decanting before serving.

The 2008 Trivium is a densely hued, glass-coating deep ruby. Complex aromas of rose petal, sweet oak, roasted chestnuts, brandied cherries and dark chocolate bedevil the senses. Along with Les Ivrettes’ typical stony terroir come grace notes of rich earth and tobacco. On the palate the wine is mouthfilling and sturdily built, with fine-grained texture and excellent balance. Its flavors suggest warm, ripe berries, dark spices and other delights, carrying on through a long, long finish.

Technical Notes:

Production:	371 cases
Fruit Source:	Les Ivrettes Block, Lewelling Ranch, St. Helena
Variety:	100 percent Cabernet Sauvignon
Alcohol:	14.8 percent
Titrateable Acidity:	6.4 grams per liter
pH:	3.67

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