

# ALEXANDER VALLEY VINEYARDS



Limited production wines that focus on some of the *best and unique* lots of wine harvested each year. Winemaker Kevin Hall creates wines showcasing unique varietals, techniques or vineyard sites.

Each hand crafted wine is small production, uniquely different and one of a kind.

## The 2011 Series: Cabernet Sauvignon

Hank Wetzel produced AVV's first wines in 1975 and the wine world quickly took notice of the elegant Cabernet Sauvignons from Alexander Valley. Thirty years later in 2004 he decided to focus on the flavor profile that made the valley famous, releasing a single vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon known as the Alexander School Reserve. We continue the tradition with the 2011. This 100 percent Cabernet Sauvignon wine is a testament to AVV Winemaker Kevin Hall's skill and the Alexander Valley's unique ability to grow amazing Cabernet Sauvignon.

We harvested the fruit from a single twenty five year old hilltop vineyard. These low yielding gnarly, mature vines produce loose clusters of pea sized grapes that ripen evenly and have incredible concentration, tremendous color and layers of flavor. Light and late are the two words most often used to describe the 2011 vintage. A wet winter and spring delayed bloom, then heavy rain at bloom hindered the fruit set decreasing the grape yields dramatically. A cool summer prolonged the growing season and harvest started later than usual. The overall effect was great flavor development at lower than normal sugar levels resulting in balanced wines at lower alcohol levels.

Aromas of black cherry, plum, cassis and vanilla fill the glass. This is a rich wine with silky smooth tannins. The earthy flavors of dark fruit and chocolate linger for a long time, giving you a chance to reflect on the history and tradition of Alexander Valley Vineyards and Cabernet Sauvignon.

**Food Pairing:** Beef, lamb and duck are always a perfect pairing, try this with a filet topped with a mushroom gratin to compliment the earthy flavors.

**Accolades:** 2010: 95 points / Gold Medal - *Beverage Dynamics / Cheers*  
2009: 88 points - *Wine Advocate Highly Recommended - Decanter*  
2008: 93 points - *Beverage Testing Institute*

**Profile:**

- Rich concentrated with silky tannins
- Cassis, black cherry and vanilla

### About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Harry and Maggie Wetzel purchased 600 acres of Cyrus Alexander's 1840's homestead in 1962. They started planting grapes in 1963 and from the beginning they realized that the property that stretched from the banks of the Russian River to the hillsides of the Mayacamas Mountains was a very special place. The Wetzel Family Estate has a rich diversity of soil types, elevations, exposures and microclimates giving AVV winemaker Kevin Hall grapes that showcase the terroir and the special place that we call home, Alexander Valley.

### Technical Data:

**Grapes:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Harvest Dates:** October 17, 2011

**Barrel regimen:** 24 months aging in French Oak barrels medium plus toast with toasted heads, 100% new

**Alcohol:** 14.2% **pH:** 3.54 **TA:** 6.8 g/L **SRP:** \$45

**Cases:** 580 **Closure:** Cork **UPC:** 0-85798 10006-4



Healdsburg ~ Sonoma County ~ California [avvwine.com](http://avvwine.com)

