



2008 CYRUS

Cyrus Alexander was a 19th century adventurer, rancher, gold miner, community leader and since 1995, the namesake of CYRUS, our benchmark red wine. Each year winemaker Kevin Hall selects the most distinctive lots of our estate Bordeaux grapes for CYRUS. In 2008 we had record frosts, generally drought like conditions and a roller coaster ride of temperatures, which reduced yields and led to more concentration in the grapes.

After barrel aging each lot separately for 12-14 months, we blend to showcase the vintage. The 2008 is a blend of 2 lots of Cabernet Sauvignon with exceptional concentration & lush texture; 2 lots of Merlot with concentration & structure; 1 lot of Cabernet Franc with finesse & depth; 1 lot of Petit Verdot for vivid color & richness and 1 lot of Malbec for deep color & depth. The blend was then barrel aged for an additional 12 months in 100% French oak, allowing the components to meld and giving the wine seamless texture and rich complexity. We released the CYRUS four years after harvest.

The 2008 has intense color and dusty aromas of plum, black cherry, cassis and toasty oak. There are flavors of cherry, plum, vanilla, oak and blackberry. This seamless blend has a good structure on the finish and a long aftertaste. While we release CYRUS four years after harvest, the wine is still quite young. It will open up beautifully in the glass, but will easily benefit from additional bottle aging



Food Pairing: Try this with a red wine and mushroom risotto, for classic pairing steak or lamb.

- Accolades:**
- 2008: 93 points Wine Enthusiast “... the winery’s best in years.”**
 - 2008: Gold Medal - Sunset International Wine Competition**
 - 2007: 91 points Wine Enthusiast - Cellar Selection**
 - 2006: 91 points Wine Enthusiast**

Profile:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elegant, expressive • The First Growth of Sonoma
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About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Over the last decade we have replanted our vineyards with reduced spacing resulting in more rows per acre and closer spacing per vine. On some sites we have more than doubled the plants in these high density vineyards. These tightly spaced vines produce around 10-12 pounds of grapes per vine. This low yield results in great complexity in the glass, while more vines per acre is one of the keys to great value in our bottles. So the next time you hear someone quoting tons per acre, be sure to ask them how many vines are producing that ton and compute the pounds per vine.

Technical Data:

Grapes: 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 7% Malbec, 6% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petite Verdot

Harvest: September 5 thru September 27, 2008

Closure: Cork

Alcohol: 14% **pH:** 3.49 **TA:** 6.9 g/L

UPC: 0-85798-11062-9 750ml 0-85798-11061-2 375ml

Release Date: October 2012 **Cases:** 1000

