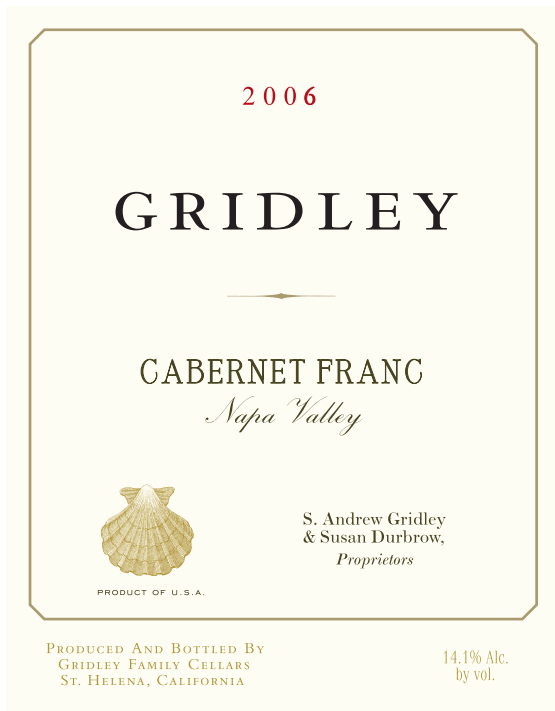


GRIDLEY

2006

CABERNET FRANC

Napa Valley



If 2005 was cool in Napa Valley, 2006 was downright cold. Harvest was one of the latest in recent years. The Saviez Vineyard where our grapes were grown was almost a month behind their typical harvest date.

On Friday October 6th, 2006 the great crew at Saviez Vineyard hand harvested our grapes. They didn't stop until they picked 10 tons of fruit. We were feeling extremely ambitious in only the third year of making wine with our first vintage not even out the door. The best news was the grapes were absolutely juicy and ripe with amazing flavors.

Saviez Vineyard's home ranch on the eastern slopes of Napa Valley is four miles north of St. Helena. It lies on the eastern side of the Silverado Trail at Larkmead Lane. This western facing vineyard at the base of the Vaca Mountain Range experiences cool summer foggy mornings and then warmer afternoon sun. The north/south facing rows provide a canopy that protects the fruit from direct sun in the late afternoon. This 2.75 acre block of Cabernet Franc was planted in 1984 with Clone 4 grafted onto type 3309 rootstock. The Saviez family has been growing grapes at this location for over 100 years.

The grapes were gently destemmed and then cold soaked at 55 degrees for four days to extract color and flavors. In order to concentrate flavors we bled off some juice and fermented it for our 2006 Rose. Our Cabernet Franc fermented for about two weeks and was gently pressed and put into 100 percent French oak barrels for 19 months. Bottling occurred on April 21, 2008.

Again the dark color of the wine in the glass shows its depth. Aromatic notes of boysenberries, pomegranate, candied orange, dark chocolate and vanilla, with subtle floral layers of lavender and violets. Juicy flavors of raspberries, blackberries and earthy cinnamon with a long finish. The wine drinks of jammy fruit supported by a refined frame of grape and oak tannins.

Harvest:	October 6, 2006
Soil:	Alluvial fan, bale loam
Clone:	Cabernet Franc 4
Rootstock:	3309
Brix:	28
Alcohol:	14.1
Total Acidity:	0.59g/100ml
pH:	3.72
Oak:	100 percent French oak, 30 percent new
Blend:	100 percent Cabernet Franc
Total Cases:	504 cases