



AMERICA'S GRAND WINE ESTATE®

*Rubicon Estate*

## 2007 RUBICON



### ABOUT THE WINE

In 1975, Francis and Eleanor Coppola purchased the old Inglenook property, intent to restore the historic chateau, reunite the original vineyards, and create world-class red wines. The Estate's flagship wine is Rubicon – a proprietary Cabernet Sauvignon-based blend, produced from the best fruit of the Estate's 235 contiguous acres of certified-organic vineyards. One of them, the Garden Vineyard, is most critical to the Estate because it contains the property's oldest vines. More importantly, this vineyard includes a Cabernet Sauvignon clone selection that Estate founder, Captain Gustave Niebaum brought from France in 1882. This Gustave Niebaum selection is one of California's most historic and important clones of Cabernet, and entirely unique to Rubicon Estate. This clone is the backbone of the Rubicon blend and distinguishes this wine from other Rutherford Cabernets.

### VINTAGE

The 2007 vintage was a winemaker's dream, and, quite possibly, the vintage of a lifetime. An unusually dry winter gave way to a warm, dry spring, which significantly reduced the crop size. These conditions produced very highly concentrated grapes. Consistent temperatures during the summer months ensured the fruit matured slowly and evenly. As a result, we saw full phenolic development in our red grapes and an ideal level of ripeness, thereby making it a perfect vintage for us. Harvest commenced in mid-September and ended on Halloween. With hardly any rain, we had the luxury of slowly bringing in the fruit, picking small lots of fruit at a time, only when optimally ripe. The lack of precipitation during harvest coupled with a lower yield overall produced fruit that's deeply expressive and highly aromatic.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

Only one of every four acres of Cabernet we grow on the Estate is deemed worthy of becoming part of Rubicon. Even in extraordinary vintages such as this one, where all of the fruit is of a very high quality, certain lots will stand apart and express a special complexity. And, though nearly all vintages of Rubicon contain Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc, our Cabernet Sauvignon was so expressive this year and had such a lush texture on its own, we did not feel the need to add Merlot to the blend. The addition of the highly colored, high energy Petit Verdot added immediate mouthfeel and seamless texture to the Cabernets. Furthermore, because of the intense concentration of flavors in our fruit, only small quantities of Cabernet Franc were included. The wine was then aged in new French oak barrels for twenty months, to soften the tannins.

### TASTING NOTES

Opulent and richly textured, our 2007 Rubicon has a velvety mouthfeel with well-integrated tannins. Dark, decadent flavors of black sour cherries, crushed wild berries, and black currants create a foundation upon which rest alluring notes of vanilla, spices, violets, and tobacco leaves. Though this vintage seems ready to enjoy now, the power and purity of our 2007 Rubicon will allow it to age for 20+ years.

Scott McLeod, Winemaker

APPELLATION:	100% RUTHERFORD AVA, 100% ESTATE GROWN, ORGANICALLY CERTIFIED (C.C.O.F.)
BLEND:	94% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 4% PETIT VERDOT, 2% CABERNET FRANC
VINEYARDS:	CHATEAU, GIO, COHN, GARDEN, APPLE, WALNUT
BARREL AGING:	20 MONTHS NEW FRENCH OAK
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
RELEASE DATE:	MARCH 15, 2011