



STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS

THE STORY OF FAY

The FAY vineyard is where the story of Stag's Leap Wine Cellars began. Established by pioneering grape grower Nathan Fay in 1961, it was the first planting of Cabernet Sauvignon in what is now the Stags Leap District. At the time, conventional wisdom maintained that the area was too cold for Cabernet Sauvignon. But tasting Nathan Fay's homemade Cabernet in 1969 was a defining moment for the founder of Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. Here was land capable of producing a wine that could rival the best in the world. Soon after, an adjoining ranch was purchased, now known as S.L.V.. And, in 1986, the winery purchased Nathan Fay's vineyard and named it FAY in his honor

VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING

In 1986, Nathan sold his vineyard to Stag's Leap Wine Cellars and in his honor, the vineyard was named FAY. Vineyard blocks on the eastern slope, closest to the Palisades, contribute structural components derived from the volcanic soils there, while the more aromatic components come from the vineyard blocks on the western alluvial upland. When blended together, we achieve the classic expression of "an iron fist in a velvet glove."

THE VINTAGE

Flooding kicked off the New Year in Napa Valley, which made for great news headlines, but caused no damage to dormant vines. Cool, wet weather delayed bud break by a few weeks, but sunshine returned by early June. In July, a record-setting heat wave lasted about ten days, which helped the vines catch up to a "normal" place in the typical growing season. Mild weather returned in August, continuing throughout the fall which allowed for moderately paced, deliberate ripening and a long harvest period.

THE WINE

This wine opens with the scent of sweet spices. Anise, nutmeg and allspice are framed around red cherry aromas. Firm and focused flavors of dark plum and cherry broaden across the back-palate to an expansive density of fruit.

APPELLATION & BLEND DATE	BARREL AGEING	ALCOHOL	RELEASE
<i>Stags Leap District</i> <i>100% Cabernet Sauvignon</i>	<i>24 months</i> <i>100% French oak</i>	<i>14.5%</i>	<i>October 2009</i>