



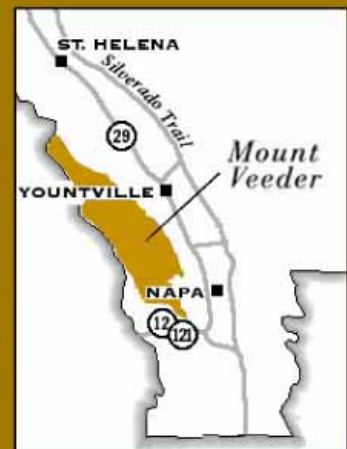
BRANDLIN

THE ESSENCE OF MOUNT VEEDER

"You cannot taste or talk about Brandlin Cabernet Sauvignon without acknowledging the impact of the site... Steep rocky soils and a moderate climate render an intense, black fruited concentration and powerful backbone of tannin that make this wine so unique."

—STEVE ROGSTAD, WINEMAKER

RUGGED... ISOLATED... BRANDLIN VINEYARD IS LOCATED ON A MOUNT VEEDER RIDGELINE OVERLOOKING NAPA VALLEY. IN THE 1870S, THE BRANDLINS SETTLED ON THESE STEEP, ROCKY SLOPES, BECOMING GRAPE GROWING PIONEERS IN NAPA'S MOUNT VEEDER REGION. WITH OVER 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE, THEY STAKED THEIR CLAIM TO THE 170-ACRE BRANDLIN RANCH AND PLANTED THE VINEYARD IN 1926. PURCHASED BY CUVAISON ESTATE WINES IN 1998, THIS NOBLE SITE REMAINS HOME TO MANY OF ITS ORIGINAL VINES AND CHESTER BRANDLIN HIMSELF.



"We brought to Brandlin Vineyard all the lessons of Cuvaison's 38 years of viticulture – great care in the study of sun exposures and soil types, and profound respect for the environment. Our intention is to honor the Brandlin family with a namesake vineyard that produces intense and elegant Cabernet Sauvignon."

BRANDLIN VINEYARD

Appellation: Mount Veeder, Napa Valley
Elevation: 900 – 1,150 feet
Soils: Schisty, gravelly loam over shale
Aspect: Predominantly southern sun exposure
Area: 170 acres total

38 acres of Bordeaux varieties

32.1 acres: Cabernet Sauvignon
2.3 acres: Malbec
1.8 acres: Cabernet Franc
1.4 acres: Petit Verdot

Brandlin vineyard is divided into 15 discrete blocks. These blocks leverage the site's varied aspects in sun exposure, slope and soil composition, each providing distinct fruit characteristics. Well-drained soils on steep slopes deliver the drought stress typical of true mountain sites, known for producing powerful wines.

Its elevation and location in the southern part of the Mount Veeder AVA provide more moderate temperatures than much of the Napa Valley. Fruit ripens slowly and harvest may take place from late September to early November.

Brandlin Vineyard's sustainable viticultural practices support plant and wildlife biodiversity in the vineyard as well as the surrounding 132 acres of native oak trees and other indigenous vegetation.

2008 BRANDLIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON MOUNT VEEDER NAPA VALLEY

Blend: 88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Malbec, 4% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc
Harvest date: September 12- October 17, 2008
Maceration: 38 days extended maceration
Barrel aging: 22 months in French oak wine barrels, 60% new
Finishing: Bottled unfinned and unfiltered
Production: 576 cases produced

"This wine reflects Mount Veeder's distinctive terroir through its rich fruit and great tannins. The Cabernet Sauvignon is redolent with black cherry, plum, coffee and chocolate notes. The Malbec adds to the wine's bouquet, acidity and length. The Cabernet Franc provides lavender, violet and spice to the blend, and the Petit Verdot imparts a low bass note and a reservoir of tannin. The wine will continue to develop complexity through a decade or more of proper cellaring."


STEVEN ROGSTAD, WINEMAKER