



2009  
AIKEN CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
HOWELL MOUNTAIN

DETAILS

VARIETAL:  
91% Cabernet Sauvignon  
9% Petite Verdot

APPELLATION:  
Howell Mountain

BOTTLING INFO:  
Bottled July 11, 2011  
140 cases produced

ALCOHOL:  
14.4%

BARRELS:  
French Oak  
85% new

THE WINE

From multiple vineyard blocks at over 1600 ft. elevation on Howell Mountain, the clones of Cabernet Sauvignon blended in this wine are 4 and 337. Clone 4 adds power and structure with the 337 giving complexity and depth. At 9%, the Petite Verdot adds bright blueberry fruit and intense color.

Gentle handling began in the vineyard with hand harvesting, followed by cluster and berry sorting in the winery. After de-stemming, 2/3 of the fruit dropped by gravity into a tank for a 4 day cold soak with gentle pumpovers. Next, the fermentation began and punchdowns were added to the daily routine to enhance extraction. The other 1/3 of the fruit was put into new French oak barrels for 35 days of fermentation and maceration. Finally, after draining and pressing, the wine was racked to barrels where malolactic fermentation took place and the wine aged until ready for bottling.

PHILOSOPHY

Joel Aiken's goal is to produce wines of distinction from exceptional vineyards in outstanding appellations. With over 30 years of winemaking experience, Joel knows the vineyards and growers capable of producing exceptional grapes for these wines.