

2007 POETRY
CABERNET SAUVIGNON, STAGS LEAP DISTRICT

Sourced from the steep hillside terraces of our own Poetry Vineyard, this wine delivers all of the elegance and concentration for which the Stags Leap District is famous.

Vintage

The lack of winter rainfall resulted in low soil moisture at the start of the vintage. With a gradual transition into spring and the earliest irrigation on record, 2007 opened with cool weather and early growth. A mild April turned to a hot May and June, with grapevines blazing through bloom and the first phase of development. Late summer heat punctuated the start of harvest. The 2007 vintage is most noted for its dry start and small berry size with pronounced flavors of unusual depth and complexity.

Vineyard

The Poetry Vineyard is the eastern most of our two estate Stags Leap District vineyards, located just a stone's throw from the winery and the Twin Peaks Estate Vineyard. The property sits on a steep west-facing, high-exposure hillside below the luxurious Poetry Inn. Reaching from the highest elevation of the Stags Leap District Appellation down almost to the valley floor, this vineyard's soul is a gritty combination of shallow soils atop fractured shales and low-yielding old vines of Cabernet Sauvignon.

Winemaking

Grapes were picked in the darkness of the very early morning hours, and immediately subjected to rigorous selection by our three-tiered sorting process. The berries were gently delivered to tank by our unique crane system, minimizing disruption of berry integrity. Cold soaks lasted approximately five to eight days and fermentations were managed via a combination of *delestage* and pumpovers. Extended maceration of two and a half to five weeks fine-tuned our tannin profiles, and allowed us to perfect mouth feel and wine complexity. The components that make up this wine underwent eighteen months of *elevage* in eighty-five percent new French oak and fifteen percent neutral French oak.

Tasting Notes

The 2007 Poetry possesses a nose redolent of blueberry strudel, nutmeg, caraway, cola and graphite. It opens with peony, crème de cassis, and violets. A truly remarkable mouth, with rich layers reminiscent of blueberry coulis, dense bramble, black cherry, and sweet opulent violet liqueur. With a unique balance of sweet fatness and elegant softness, wrapped in a cloak of unctuous silkiness, the mouth turns floral and complements its finesse and structure with soft-rounded tannins and an elegant finish that lingers.

Analysis

Composition: 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Petit Verdot, 2% merlot, 2% Malbec, 2% Cabernet Franc
Alcohol: 15.1%
Bottling Date: June 2009
Release Date: October 2010
Production: 975 cases