

# JEFF GORDON CELLARS



## 2008 NAPA VALLEY JOIE DE VIVRE

### TASTING NOTES

Our Joie de Vivre red blend is not only a favorite of Jeff's, it has become the signature wine of the Collection. Our 2008 vintage is composed of a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah. Mountain Cab and valley floor Merlot marry well together, combining solid structure with marvelous fruit. The Syrah is added to give balance and stability to the wine.

The 2008 vintage produced some truly beautiful wines. Quality from this vintage is considered very high- the only challenge being the lack of quantity. With one of the harder frosts to date, crop levels were small. With its low yield, the Cabernet's mountain fruit produced an intense and complex wine which gives this Joie de Vivre an essence of earth and anise spice. The Merlot contributes a lovely complexity with its soft fruit character, round tannin, and herbal notes. The Syrah adds bramble berry fruit, firm tannin, and acidity to the overall blend. The 2008 Joie de Vivre can complement a variety of different food dishes and is presently ready to drink, but has been crafted to enjoy for years to come.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

The wines were fermented separately prior to blending. After gentle crushing and a two-three day cold soak, a combination of punchdowns and pumpovers were employed during fermentation to gain maximum extraction from the skins without harsh tannins. The wine was barrel aged for 20 months prior to bottling.

### VINEYARDS

Cabernet from Corbett Vineyards, Napa Valley/Spring Mountain

Merlot from Solari Vineyard, Napa Valley/Calistoga

Syrah from Page Nord Vineyard, Napa Valley/Yountville

### SPECIFICATIONS

Production: 254 cases

Alcohol: 14.5%

Total Acidity: 6.0 g/L

Ph: 3.7

Barrel Aging: 20 months

Barrel Types: Cabernet & Merlot - French and American Oak

Syrah - French Oak

30% New Oak, 70% 2-3 year Old Oak

