



2009 *Champoux Vineyard*

78% CABERNET SAUVIGNON & 22% CABERNET FRANC

HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

Champoux Vineyard was originally planted on the slope of Phinny Hill in 1971. In the four decades since, Champoux has earned a reputation as one of the greatest cabernet vineyards on the West Coast. Caleb has made cabernet sauvignon since 1991 from its blocks, and Buty has been producing this single-vineyard blend of Cabernet Sauvignon & Cabernet Franc since 2000.

Champoux benefits from a long growing season flowering in mid-June and lasting until October's end. The site's unique soils, cooling winds off the Columbia River and old clonal selections impart a distinctive aromatic signature. Building on our experience with Champoux, Caleb underscores the vineyard's head-turning aromatics with a silky style that incorporates cabernet franc to balance the wine's texture and power.

We harvested our cabernet franc first on September 21 at 23.9° Brix. The cabernet sauvignon followed on October 3 at 25.7° Brix, with a pH of 3.50. All our hand-harvested fruit was cluster sorted then whole-grape sorted on shaker tables and gravity transferred to tank. The cabernet franc and cabernet sauvignon spent 22 and 18 days respectively fermenting on skins. Only free run wine was used. To preserve the wine's natural strengths no acid, water, or other adjustments were made. The wine spent 21 months in 80% new Taransaud Château barrels aging unracked on the lees, and was bottled unfiltered. Nine months of bottle aging affords its full perfume upon release. The final alcohol for this wine is a modest and natural 14.3%.

From its signature violet aromatics to its rich, velvety texture, excellent acidity and age-worthy ripe tannins, this is our stylistic expression of Champoux Vineyard cabernet. An emphasis on the vineyard's lovely floral character adds nuance and sophistication to rich American cabernet notes of cassis and marionberry. Decanting is recommended at any age for the wine.

Ninety-three cases, plus large formats were bottled. Our Champoux Vineyard red blend is released annually on March 1st, and retails for \$85.