

# PUNCH

VINEYARDS



## CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2010

*80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, 7% other red varietals. Primarily Spring Mountain.*

*Alcohol 14.5%; Residual Sugar 0.32%; Titratable Acidity 6.2g/L; pH 3.74*

*Fewer than 1,000 cases made. Special thanks to winemaker Miguel Caratachea.*

### VINTAGE 2010

2010 challenged Napa Valley with an ultra cool summer (crisp acidity, under-ripe) then a surprise heat blast in late August (oops, sugary raisins). The valley's harvest was barely half the usual size – so quality grapes were hard to come by (a shortage made even worse in 2011). Punch, however, clung to the hillsides as usual, where temperature swings were less dramatic, and we got lucky again. Mostly from Spring Mountain, with six barrels of Mount Veeder and a sprinkling of Alexander Valley. Drink now or cellar 8 years or longer.

### BY INSIDERS, FOR INSIDERS

Punch Cabernet Sauvignon is made by Napa Valley artisans from prestigious vintners whose job was to make top-rated wines that we couldn't afford for ourselves. One day we decided to apply our know-how to make a great wine within *our* mere mortal means. Members include consulting winemaker Steve Lagier of Lagier-Meredith, winemaker Miguel Caratachea, and proprietor Lee Nordlund, formerly of Beringer, Robert Mondavi Winery, and Franciscan. Other contributors must remain confidential. Our icon is Punch, the California grizzly - a bighearted insider with a knack for nosing out the best fruit – an uncanny sense of taste.

### CLASSIC STYLE, SMOOTH FINISH

Punch Vineyards has all the hallmarks of luxury Cabernet Sauvignons that sell for much higher prices: deep concentration, complex black cherry, blackberry, mocha and other classic flavors, and firm structure. Punch is distinguished by its smooth, luscious texture, and a lively finish. It took us many years to secure sources that allow us to do this at an approachable price, but our motto – *Mereto* – means, “You have to earn it.”

### HILLSIDE VINEYARDS - THE FIRST “SUPER-CALIFORNIAN”

We choose hillside vineyards because slope makes ordinary vineyards extraordinary by forcing the grapes to build character. We pick up extra lots from our colleagues' wineries and other insider locations, mostly in Napa Valley. So don't be fooled by the California appellation on our label. We're betting that Punch quality speaks for itself and that our customers won't care that we don't have an expensive address – or price.



#### **Punch Vineyards 2009**

**91 points EDITORS CHOICE** Shows a Napa-esque flair, bearing softly ripe blackberry and cassis flavors, with balance and richness. *October 2012*



#### **Punch Vineyards 2008 Tokalon-Eastridge**

**90 points** Pleasantly rustic, with gritty tannins and a chewy texture woven among a tight mix of loamy earth, dried currant and dried flowers, firming on the finish. Best from 2013 through 2024. *October 15, 2012*