

Lail Vineyards



2008 J. DANIEL CUVEE CABERNET SAUVIGNON, NAPA VALLEY

THE PEOPLE

Lail Vineyards traces its Napa Valley roots back five generations to the founding of Inglenook in 1879 by Gustav Niebaum, great-grand uncle of Robin Daniel Lail. Passed down to third generation owner John Daniel, Jr., Inglenook thrived under his direction from 1933 to 1964 as he played a major role in the development of the Napa Valley appellation. The winery's flagship wine, "J. Daniel Cuvee", is named in his honor.

Lail Vineyards was founded in 1995 by fourth generation vintner Robin Lail and her family to carry the unique family legacy forward into the 21st century. Generations five and six are woven into the tapestry of the venture with the involvement of daughters Erin and Shannon, and with the "Georgia" Sauvignon Blanc named for the first member of the sixth generation. Each year the family continues its passionate quest to produce the very finest wines in the world from the blend of their ingredients – the land, the seasons, the winemaking team and the spirit of the generations who led the way.

THE WINE

"2008 is the perfect example of an unconventional vintage where quality of the vineyards and winemaking are key. The creamy introduction supports a ripe blackberry and dark plums bouquet. Dense, intense, and extremely refined blend of 100 % Cabernet, with aromas of mocha and licorice to conclude the mouth. Great structure and concentration coming from the fruit with present but integrated underlying oak. A definitive lay down wine."

—Philippe Melka, Winemaker

"The flagship red is the J. Daniel Cuvee, and the 2008 is a blend of fruit from three sources, one in Calistoga, one in Oakville and one the estate vineyards on Howell Mountain. It is a 100% Cabernet Sauvignon aged 18 months in French oak. Its dense plum/purple color is followed by aromas of cocoa, espresso, white chocolate, black currant and sweet blackberries. Medium to full-bodied, more restrained and not as compelling as the gorgeous 2007, it is, nevertheless, an outstanding wine that is capable of lasting 15 or more years."

— Robert Parker, The Wine Advocate

"Full ruby-red. Pungent aromas of black cherry, blueberry, minerals, mocha and menthol, lifted by a violet topnote. Fairly large-scaled for this bottling but with lovely balance and precision, not to mention considerable sex appeal. The rising, floral finish features broad, suave tannins and excellent persistence. A terrific showing. 93 points"

— Stephan Tanzer, International Wine Cellar

PROPRIETORS: The Lail Family

–Robin, Jon, Erin and Shannon

THE WINE: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

WINEMAKER: Philippe Melka

PRODUCTION: 509 cases

(bottled as 1018 units of 6x750ml)

VINEYARDS: Howell Mountain,
Oakville & Dutch Henry Canyon

RELEASE: Summer 2011