

CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2006 CENTRAL COAST

Robert Mondavi is widely known as the foremost pioneer of world-class wines from California's Napa Valley. In the early 1990s, Robert Mondavi also planted vineyards in select areas within California's diverse Central Coast. This exploration of one of California's most exciting wine regions has resulted in Solaire by Robert Mondavi.

GROWING REGION: CENTRAL COAST

Our 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon came from three Central Coast American Viticultural Areas (AVAs): 57% from Paso Robles, 30% from San Lucas (Monterey County), 13% from San Benito County. The use of the three AVAs creates a beautiful blend of ripe classic Cabernet Sauvignon fruit with more layers, complexity, balance, and elegance. Paso Robles' extremely dry, hot climate lends generous fruit flavor, balanced acidity, and rich color. Pine Creek Vineyard, which was planted by Robert Mondavi in the mid-1990s, resides in Southern Monterey County, San Lucas AVA. Pine Creek has a slightly cooler climate than Paso Robles, resulting in aromas of black cherry, blackberry, and cassis, and lush mouthfeel. San Benito County has a warm climate offering dense, dark colors and small berries providing good structure.

VINTAGE

The 2006 growing season opened with huge winter rains followed by early spring rains that allowed the vines to grow and grow. The vines had almost full canopies by the end of May and bloom was prolonged. The weather remained cool into early summer, leading into a very hot end of July. Cool temperatures in August and September delayed the onset of harvest, giving grapes time to develop ripe, full flavors and excellent balance.

WINEMAKING

Solaire by Robert Mondavi Cabernet Sauvignon grapes were selected from top vineyards within the Central Coast of California, including Pine Creek, Wild Rose, and Donati. After the grapes were harvested at the peak of ripeness, the wine was fermented in stainless tanks with pulse air for softer extraction and mouthfeel. All of the wine underwent malolactic fermentation to enhance roundness and depth. The wine was aged 14–15 months in a mixture of new and used French and American oak barrels from various esteemed coopers such as Vicard, Demptos, Nadalie, and Boswell.

TASTE PROFILE: *Vibrant*

Solaire by Robert Mondavi Cabernet Sauvignon highlights an excellent blend of Paso Robles, Monterey County, and San Benito County fruit. This full-bodied wine displays aromas and flavors of blackberry, cassis, and plum, supported by ripe tannins and integrated, sweet vanilla oak. This wine has beautiful elegance. It's soft and approachable now, and will further improve with careful cellaring for eight to 10 years.

CENTRAL COAST TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Content:	85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Syrah, 3% Malbec, 2% Merlot, 2% Petite Verdot
Appellation:	57% Paso Robles, 30% San Lucas (Monterey County), 13% San Benito County
Vineyard Sourcing:	Wild Rose, Pine Creek, Donati
Alcohol Label:	13.5%

