



2006 Cru Vin Dogs “Lucky” Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot Tasting Notes

We knew this wine had to be special—the pedigree of the noble and endearing Yellow Labrador Retriever demanded it. And “Lucky,” the Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) assistance dog gracing the label, is a very special Lab, indeed.

Admittedly, our goal was lofty: produce a wine with the finesse and character of the finest Bordeaux’s along with the exceptional concentration of California’s very best fruit.

This 2006 “Lucky” Bordeaux blend features Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and a splash of Cabernet Franc from the esteemed Spring Mountain appellation in Napa Valley, as well as Merlot from steep-sloped vineyards in the benchlands of west Dry Creek Valley. The grapevines grown on these sites are smaller than their valley floor counterparts, yielding small crops of tiny berries. The fruit is a winemaker’s dream—combining the concentration and complexity of its flavors with balanced tannin and acidity, which drives the wine’s age-ability.

Experiencing how a great wine opens and blossoms during a good meal is one of life’s finest pleasures. As for “Lucky,” consider how the dark cherry, boysenberry and smoky plum aromas expand and intensify; how the red currant, pomegranate and cranberry flavors ripen in the glass as notes of floral and spice are gradually revealed.

Lastly, take time to revel in the finish—a seemingly endless array of fresh-crushed pure California fruits with hints of smoky cedar, dark chocolate and dried blueberries.

Considering the time, energy and love that went into producing this wine, it makes sense that consuming it should be a leisurely and intimate experience. So, invite a friend or two over for some great wine, food and stories. And, speaking of friends, be sure to raise a glass of “Lucky” while toasting humankind’s best friends, our dogs.

