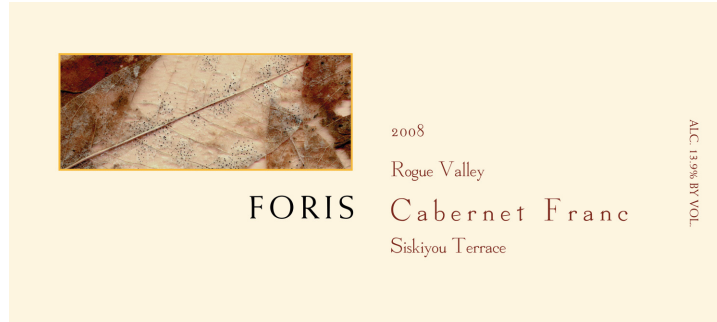


2008 Cabernet Franc



Nestled in a pristine alpine valley in southwestern Oregon's rugged Siskiyou Mountain range, Foris Vineyards has been a true viticultural pioneer for over thirty five years. Specializing in Alsatian varietals and Pinot Noir, Foris Vineyards consistently garners accolades for both quality and value. The dramatic natural beauty and purity of our surrounding environment is reflected in the vibrant epicurean wines that have earned us a place in some of America's finest restaurants and wine shops.

Varietal bottlings of Cabernet Franc are not the norm, but this distinguished varietal plays an important role in many Bordeaux blends. Depending upon the country and region, it expresses its personality in a diverse array of attributes. It often displays a mix of fine herbs, tobacco and is sometimes downright vegetal. At its best, it provides a showy display of floral aromatics and dark purple hue accompanied by great structure.

Our 2008 Cabernet Franc is a bit of an exception for Foris. Evans Creek Vineyard has long been source of exceptional fruit for us. Distinguished by very low yielding vines which seem at times to be barely viable economically, Nancy Tappan has taken pride in meticulous farming practices. A new source for Foris in 2008 was Frank's Vineyard in the Applegate Valley. Unusual in that it is one of very few vineyards in the Rogue Valley that is dry farmed (no irrigation), the tiny berries and highly ripened fruit were a unique gift from the somewhat cooler Applegate Valley. The valley is known for higher acidities and vibrant, pure fruit qualities.

This is a stunning wine aromatically. Big and brambly, kirsch, lavender, clove and cedar forest are all high notes with amazing intensity. Flavors of black cherry, dried orange peel, Satsuma plum and an unusual black olive and soy character create a savory quality that delivers real depth and complexity.

Structurally, the wine has a rich yet restrained feel. Once past the initial impression on the palate, which is somewhat plush, the fine tannins and lively acidity lead to a tightly wound finish. While enjoyable in its youth, this wine should have a long life ahead.

Average Brix at harvest: 25.2

Analysis at bottling: pH 3.60, TA 5.6, Alcohol 13.9

Bottled 7/28/2010, cases produced 697