



2008 Roberta's Reserve

- **Appellation:** Yountville (Napa Valley), CA
- **Barrel Age:** 20 months (100% French oak)
- **Blend:** 96% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc
- **Alcohol:** 14.5%
- **Production:** 125 cases

The Estate

The vineyard and winery are located on State Lane on a 20 acre parcel in Yountville, in the heart of Napa Valley, CA. It is planted in a dense 3ft. by 5-1/2ft. spacing with Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot.

The Wine

Flagship Merlot-based wine from Kapcsandy Family, in part an *homage* to the exceptional wines of Pomerol, Bordeaux (France). From the finest parcels of Merlot on the estate **only 7%** of our entire production, Roberta's Reserve has received recent praise by the preeminent wine critic in the world, Robert Parker, Jr. "there is no better Merlot-based wine being made in California."

Robert Parker, Wine Advocate, December 2010 – 99 Points

The 2008 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard (96% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc) is virtually perfect. This offering is just as strong as the 2007, but slightly more forward and irresistible than the backward 2007. It boasts a dense inky/purple color as well as an extraordinary nose of blackberry liqueur intermixed with cocoa, forest floor, graphite and subtle hints of smoke as well as camphor. The wine reveals fresh acids, laser-like precision and an extraordinary plump, fleshy mouthfeel. Already approachable, it should evolve for 20-25+ years. .

The Family

As I have written many times over the last several years, the Kapcsandy estate, which is essentially the old Beringer State Lane Vineyard in Yountville resurrected under the perfectionist philosophy of Lou Kapcsandy, his son, Louis, and wife, Bobbi, is about as good a news story as one can find in Napa Valley. The vineyard, planted with very tight spacing and a north/south exposition by Helen Turley and John Wetlaufer, is impressive in its own right. Yet what the Kapcsandys have done with the fruit from that vineyard with assistance from their consultant, the Pauillac-born Denis Malbec, is nothing short of remarkable. Moreover, they have done it in less than a decade, which proves that fortunes can be made quickly, provided there are three ingredients – incredibly hard work, lots of talent, and a super terroir. These can indeed propel an estate to the stratosphere in less than a decade. The basic second wine of lots culled out from their three top cuvees is called Endre. This is a very good effort as the two most recent vintages suggest. There are three cuvees made from Kapcsandy's State Lane Vineyard. The Estate Cuvee is generally composed of equal proportions of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot blended with tiny amounts of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. The Roberta's Reserve, which is named after Lou Kapcsandy's wife, Bobbi, is their Pomerol-styled Merlot-based wine that usually contains at least 90% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc. The Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard is a northern Medoc-styled offering usually containing 85% or more Cabernet Sauvignon blended with tiny portions of Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. This estate has duplicated their extraordinary success with the 2007s with very great 2008s.