

# FLINT WINES

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## Snowden VINEYARDS NAPA VALLEY

### Snowden – young and old.....

Diana Snowden-Seysse, oenologist at Domaine Dujac (and married to Jeremy Seysse), was enticed back by her family winery to take charge of winemaking duties after it experienced a mini wobble in the early part of the decade. Prior to that the estate had produced a string of lovely wines in the 1990s. We were lucky enough to taste a bottle of the '98 recently and were so impressed we persuaded the family to release 10 cases to us. The wine is drinking beautifully now and shows just how good these top Californians can get when given the necessary ageing. It shows a gorgeous, juicy elegance that delights the palate and offers good complexity. It's an exciting thought that the new vintages we are currently offering will be even better than this '98 when mature.

Diana's first vintage was 2005 and the scores her wines immediately got were phenomenal. She then beat them with her 2006s and has again trumped those with her 2007s. We are delighted to offer all three vintages here but please note that priority for the 2007s will be given to those who buy or have already bought the 2006s. Snowden produce 2 reds, both from Cabernet Sauvignon. The Ranch will drink earlier than the Reserve but still reward a good ten years of ageing.

"Snowden produces just under 2,000 cases of extraordinary wine from their 23 acres of hillside vineyards on the eastern side of Napa, above the Auberge du Soleil. They have fashioned superb reds along with a delicious, French-inspired Sauvignon Blanc. For Napa Cabernets, Snowden's wines are relatively great bargains for their quality. Qualitatively, Snowden is an awakening giant." Robert Parker

#### 1998 Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon

£495ib/12

*"The medium-bodied 1998 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa is an outstanding example from this excessively maligned vintage. It possesses an opaque purple color, great fruit, superb density, soaring aromas of sweet fruitcake, coffee, and cassis, supple tannin, and a long, concentrated finish. It will drink well for 10-15 years" 90 points. Parker*

#### 2006 The Ranch

£285ib/12

*"The 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch (composed of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc and a dollop of Petit Verdot) offers up aromas of burning embers, blackberries, cassis, licorice, and a touch of bouquet garni. The complex aromatics are followed by a full-bodied wine displaying velvety tannin, and a bold finish with considerable depth as well as length. Drink this excellent Napa Cabernet over the next 15-20 years. 92 pts". Parker*

**2007 The Ranch****£320ib/12**

*"The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch (90% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot) is sensational. Dense ruby/purple-hued with notes of cassis, licorice, chocolate, cedar, and coffee, it is a long, rich, flamboyant, exuberant effort whose minerality/burning ember component in the finish gives the wine considerable definition. This full-bodied offering is a classic Napa Cabernet Sauvignon combined with a finesse and minerality that is unusual in California. It should drink well for 20-30 years. 95 pts." Parker*

**2006 Reserve****£240ib/6**

*"The prodigious 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve (75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot, 8+% Petit Verdot, and about 5% Cabernet Franc) reveals aromas of flowers, espresso roast, blackberries, and creme de cassis. This exuberant, rich, full-bodied Cabernet coats the palate, but is neither heavy nor overbearing. Sweet, substantial, well-integrated tannins along with decent acidity, and a stunningly long, 50-second finish make for a compelling glass of young, but promising Cabernet Sauvignon. This 2006 should hit its peak in 3-5 years, and last for 25 or more. 95 pts". Parker*

**2007 Reserve****£255ib/6**

*"The dazzling 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve (86% Cabernet Sauvignon and 14% Cabernet Franc) requires 2-5 more years of bottle age, but should evolve for three decades. Its dense purple color is accompanied by a thrilling bouquet of espresso roast, smoked herbs, licorice, creme de cassis, blackberries, and ink. The wine hits the palate with a blast of fruit, a full-bodied mouthfeel, and tremendous purity, definition, and length. The sensational purity and exquisite balance between all its elements are impressive as well as noteworthy. 97+ pts." Parker*

**The 2006s and the 1998 are lying at LCB. The 2007s will be arriving in a few months time. Quantities are limited and we may have to allocate. Minimum order is 1 case.**