

WOLF FAMILY VINEYARDS

St. Helena / Napa Valley

2001 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley Estate Grown and Bottled

Vineyards

The 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon was made exclusively from Cabernet Sauvignon grown in the Wolf Family Vineyard estate vineyard, just south of St. Helena in an excellent location for Bordeaux varietals against the foothills of the Mayacamas Mountains on the western side of Napa Valley. The Cabernet Sauvignon was planted in 1996 to clones 337 and 7, on Schwarzman rootstock, narrowly spaced at 4' by 6'. This site is a slightly sloping area of well-drained, gravelly, clay loam soils. Despite the close spacing, the vineyard has low per acre yields (3 tons per acre), due to the small berries and very loose clusters. These vines produce this low yield, year after year, without any need of crop thinning, and still maintain an excellent vine balance.

The 2001 vintage was ideal in Napa Valley—during both the growing and maturation periods. The warmer temperatures in St. Helena provide ideal conditions for bringing out the depth and complexity of Cabernet Sauvignon. Because of the almost textbook conditions the Cabernet Sauvignon reached optimum maturity in the beginning of October and was picked in 3 days.

Winemaking and Tasting Notes

The 2001 was fermented with two different yeasts (D254, Ruby). After a short cold soak, the fermentation was prolonged, finishing in 18 to 22 days. The wine was pressed immediately at dryness. It was aged 19 months in 68% new French oak barrels and the balance in one and two year old French oak barrels.

The Wolf Family Vineyards is rapidly establishing itself as a premier producer of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons and the 2001 vintage is an excellent example of its rich style. The warmer temperatures of St. Helena bring out the strong varietal aromas of blackberry, cassis and anise, which combine well with the lush texture of the wine. These complex flavors integrate well with the toasty new French oak barrels and the deep berry aromas of Cabernet Sauvignon.

Statistics

Must	26.9° Brix; 4.6 g/L total acidity; 3.88 pH
Wine	14.9% alcohol, 6.3 g/L total acidity, 3.80 pH
Blend	100% Cabernet Sauvignon Wolf Family Vineyard
Bottling	485 cases were bottled in May 2003
Release Date	Early Fall 2004
Winemaker	Karen Culler
Proprietors	Jane and Doug Wolf