

WOLF FAMILY VINEYARDS

St. Helena / Napa Valley

2003 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley Estate Grown and Bottled

Vineyards

The 2003 Wolf Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon was made exclusively from estate grown fruit from the Wolf Family front vineyard located just south west of St. Helena against the foothills of the Mayacamas Mountains in Napa Valley. The 4.5 acre vineyard was planted in 1996 to Cabernet Sauvignon 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. The vineyard yielded 3.3 tons per acre of very small berries in 2003.

Vintage

The 2003 vintage started out with warm temperatures but was soon followed by a mild spring and summer. The length of the growing season allowed for full development of the deep and complex flavors while the mild temperatures softened the tannins. Indian summer didn't arrive until October when it brought a perfect harvest, albeit a month later than in past years, on October 28.

Winemaking

The 2003 Wolf Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon was hand picked in the early morning hours then hand sorted and destemmed. The must was cold soaked for 5 days, and then fermented with native yeasts for 14 days then pressed immediately at dryness. It was aged 19 months in 80% new French oak barrels and the balance in two year old French oak barrels.

Tasting Notes

The warm daytime temperatures, along with the night cooling from the fog bring out the well developed aromas of blackberry, cassis and anise. The lush, rounded texture and rich extract of the wine are classic characteristics of Cabernet from the St. Helena appellation. These complex flavors integrate well with the toasty new French oak barrels and the deep berry aromas. In balance, the wine is ready to drink now and is appropriate for long-term cellaring.

Statistics

Wine	14.8% alcohol; 6.9 g/L total acidity 3.77 pH
Blend	100% Cabernet Sauvignon, Estate
Bottling	218 cases, May 2005
Release Date	Fall 2006
Winemaker	Karen Culler
Proprietors	Jane and Doug Wolf