

WOLF FAMILY VINEYARDS

St. Helena / Napa Valley

2004 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley Estate Grown and Bottled

Vineyards

The 2004 Wolf Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon was made exclusively from estate grown fruit from the Wolf Family 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. These vines produce this low yield, year after year, without any need of crop thinning, and still maintain an excellent vine balance. The 2004 yield was very low at 1.5 tons per acre.

Vintage

The 2004 vintage was a stellar year for Napa Valley Cabernets. The winter rains ended early, and budbreak soon followed. The summer was warm and harvest was earlier than normal. We picked twice: September 13th and 17th which was more than a month earlier than 2003.

Winemaking

The 2004 Wolf Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon was hand picked in the early morning hours then hand sorted and destemmed. The grapes were left to cold soak for 4 days, and then fermented with native yeasts. Fermentation finished in 12 days and the wine was pressed immediately at dryness. It was aged 20 months in 71% new French oak barrels and the balance in two year old French oak barrels.

Tasting Notes

The warm daytime temperatures and cool, fog-influenced nights bring out deep berry aromas of blackberry, cassis and anise. Juicy dark black fruits, blackberry and chocolate flavors layer onto the palate. Integrating well with the toasty new French barrels, the plush texture and fat, mouth filling tannins carry through to a very long and rewarding finish.

Statistics

Wine	14.8% alcohol; 6.9 g/L total acidity 3.77 pH
Blend	100% Cabernet Sauvignon, Estate
Bottling	349 cases, May 2006
Release Date	Fall 2007
Winemaker	Karen Culler
Proprietors	Jane and Doug Wolf