

# WOLF FAMILY VINEYARDS

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*St. Helena / Napa Valley*

## 2004 Cabernet Franc Blend, Napa Valley Estate Grown and Bottled

### Vineyards

The 2004 blend consists of Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon grown on the Wolf Family estate located just south west of St. Helena against the foothills of the Mayacamas Range in Napa Valley. The rolling one acre Cabernet Franc vineyard was planted in the early '80's on sparse, rocky, volcanic soils, situated higher up the slope toward the back of the property. The vines produce very small, intensely flavored berries with low yields. The Cabernet Sauvignon was planted in 1996 to clones 337 and 7 on Schwarzman rootstock, on a 4' by 6' spacing. This five acre vineyard lies on a slightly sloping area of gravelly, clay loam soils. Because of the close spacing, the vineyard has low per acre yields due to the small berries and very loose clusters.

### Vintage

The 2004 vintage began early this year with bud break in the beginning of March, following an abrupt and early end of the rainy season. The spring was dry and warmer than normal. Conditions continued through the summer and into harvest. The Cabernet Franc was picked on September 24 and the Cabernet Sauvignon picked on September 17—an early harvest. An extremely low yield in 2004 produced just over one ton of Cabernet Franc to the acre. Clusters and berries were again small with intense flavors.

### Winemaking

The Cabernet Franc was fermented utilizing a balance between commercial and native yeasts. Both the Cabernet Franc and the Cabernet Sauvignon were pressed when dry, then aged 16 months in 50% new French oak barrels and 50% one and two year old French oak barrels.

### Tasting Notes

The warm and early 2004 vintage produced a wine with a flair—big, bold tannins, with deep, rich black and red berry aromas followed by a blend of mature and highly concentrated flavors delivered on a weighty palate. Aging potential is excellent.

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### Statistics

Wine	14.9% alcohol
Blend	85% Cabernet Franc; 15% Cabernet Sauvignon
Bottling	90 cases bottled in March 2006
Release Date	Spring 2007
Winemaker	Karen Culler
Proprietors	Jane and Doug Wolf