

# WOLF FAMILY VINEYARDS

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*St. Helena / Napa Valley*

## 2005 Cabernet Franc Blend, Napa Valley Estate Grown and Bottled

### Vineyards

The 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 1980's on sparse, rocky, volcanic soils, situated on 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.

### Vintage

The 2005 vintage was the exact opposite of 2004—beginning with a very late, cool and wet spring followed by a cool summer and an “exciting”, late harvest. The Cabernet Franc was hand picked on November 1 and the Cabernet Sauvignon was harvested by hand on October 27, almost a month and a half later than 2004! 2005 produced a heavier than normal crop, which was still only three tons per acre. Berries were intensely flavored and the clusters were very small. The rainbow at the end of such a patience-trying season was that the lengthy ripening period produced wine with a stunning elegance, well balanced tannins and a velvety texture.

### Winemaking

The Cabernet Franc was inoculated with yeast after a 5 day cold soak on the skins. Both the Cabernet Franc and the Cabernet Sauvignon were pressed when dry, then aged 16 months in 45% new French oak barrels and 65% one and two year old French oak barrels.

### Tasting Notes

The cool growing conditions of the 2005 vintage produced wines with a soft elegance, characteristic of slow grape maturation and even, thorough tannin development. The aroma is replete with red and black raspberry and beautiful complex herbal, anise notes. The 2005 is approachable earlier but should have the same long term aging potential given its balance

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### Statistics

Wine	14.9% alcohol; 5.6g/L TA; 3.91 pH
Blend	97% Cabernet Franc ; 3% Cabernet Sauvignon
Bottling	193 cases bottled in March 2007
Release Date	Spring 2008
Winemaker	Karen Culler
Proprietors	Jane and Doug Wolf