



APPELLATION: NAPA VALLEY
VARITETAL BLEND: 92% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 3% MERLOT,
3% PETIT VERDOT, 1% MALBEC, 1% CABERNET FRANC
BARRELS: 40% NEW AND 60% ONE - TWO YEAR OLD FRENCH OAK
PRODUCTION: 900 CASES
WINEMAKER: SPENCER GRAHAM
RELEASE DATE: FALL 2004

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Dense, rich ruby red color. Exhibiting well-balanced aromas of ripe mulberry, cherry and black raspberry highlighted with a hint of smoky oak. High-toned and richly flavored, this flagship Elizabeth Spencer Cabernet Sauvignon is a classic, opulent, well-structured wine with firm tannins.

WINEMAKING

Grapes were harvested over several days throughout a two week period in early October. We hand selected only the ripest berries and vinified each vineyard lot separately. After fermentation the wine was racked into small, 60-gallon French oak barrels. The wine was aged in medium-toast French oak barrels from a variety of coopers adding aroma and flavor dimension. Spencer Graham blends for complexity and structure through a diversity of grape sources from several sub-appellations.

VINEYARDS

Our Cabernet Sauvignon is sourced from several Napa Valley growers with whom we have established long-term relationships. Most of the fruit comes from

vineyards located in Yountville and Napa that are planted on the valley floor and on a gently rising slope up to the foothills. These selected sites are farmed specifically to our strict standards with the aim towards making pure, intense and balanced wines of sophisticated simplicity.

VINTAGE

Highlights for the 2002 growing season included a long, mostly mild spring and summer followed by heat spikes of warm weather near the end of September that pushed ripening levels upward, concentrated fruit flavors and condensed the harvest. An early April frost and May rains gave way to a mild summer with ideal growing conditions – warm days and cool, even cold, nights. Overall, the grape crop was balanced, showing excellent intense colors and flavor concentration. Our per-acre tonnage was generally lower than average. Grapes developed full, rich flavors and ideal acidity.

Elizabeth Spencer Wines

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