

TRUCHARD VINEYARDS



Premiere Release!! 1997 Cabernet Franc

- Vintage:** Ideal conditions throughout the spring of 1997 resulted in excellent berry set and a very large crop. Warmer summer temperatures steadily brought the fruit to maturity and led to an early harvest. This "record harvest" produced fruit of outstanding quality. 1997 wines show exceptional depth, intensity, and balance.
- Vineyard:** The Truchard Estate Vineyard is located in the Carneros region of the Napa Valley. It is 170 acres of hills and valleys, which contain a variety of soils: clay, shale, sandstone, limestone, volcanic ash and rock. The combination of terrain, geology, and marine-moderated temperatures, provides "micro-climates" well suited for wine-growing. Cabernet Franc is planted in several different sites - on steep, southwest-facing hillsides. The vines range from 10 to 15 years old, and produce wines that are deep in color, dominated by lush flavors of plum, berry, and spice. Cabernet Sauvignon which grows on adjacent blocks is blended in to provide firmness, complexity, and added age ability.
- Harvest:** September 12 & 27 • 24.5 °Brix • 3.52 pH • 5.9 g/l TA
- Winemaking:** All of the fruit was gently destemmed and crushed, then inoculated with Pasteur Red yeast. Each fermentation was pumped-over twice daily, with the temperature peaking at 88° F. The lots were pressed after 14 days of maceration. The wine was aged for 20 months in French oak barrels (40% new). Rackings occurred every 4 months until bottling in August of 1999. This wine is 93% Cabernet Franc and 7% Cabernet Sauvignon. It is drinkable upon release, but will continue to evolve with careful cellaring for the next 7 - 10 years.
- Wine Analysis:** 14.2 % alcohol • 3.61 pH • 5.5 g/l TA
- Tasting Notes:** A complex nose of plum, cherry, and floral blueberry; highlighted with notes of cedar, vanilla, and spice. The mouth is smooth: full of black cherry, red berry and cassis; with a touch of black pepper and leather. Round, chewy tannins fill out the palate and provide a lingering finish of fruit and spice.
- Release date:** August 1, 2000
Cases Produced: 141
Bottle Price: \$32.00

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