



## 1999 Cabernet Franc

- Vintage:** 1999 was a cool, late vintage that produced top quality fruit. Cold springtime conditions delayed flowering and reduced yields. Continued cool weather throughout the summer months allowed for slow, even ripening and excellent flavor development. The resulting wines have intense aromas, rich flavors, and impressive structure.
- Vineyard:** The Truchard Estate Vineyard is located in the Carneros region of the Napa Valley. It is 270 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 12 to 17 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:** October 18 & 31 • 24.5 °Brix • 3.48 pH • 6.1 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 90° 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 2001. The final blend is 95% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. It is drinkable upon release, but will continue to evolve over the next 10 - 12 years.
- Wine Analysis:** 14.2% alcohol • 3.59 pH • 5.8 g/l TA
- Tasting Notes:** Rich aromas of ripe cherry, blueberry preserves, and plum; highlighted with notes of cedar, tobacco, and mint. The mouth is smooth: full of red currants, plum jam, and cassis. Round tannins fill the palate and focus the flavors into a spicy finish of dried red fruit.
- Release Date:** August 1, 2002  
**Cases Produced:** 237  
**Bottle Price:** \$28.00