

2000 Cabernet Sauvignon

- Vintage: The 2000 Vintage was another long, late harvest. Excellent springtime conditions resulted in good berry set and above average yields. Moderate summer temperatures allowed the fruit to mature slowly and develop intense flavors. The wines from this vintage have powerful aromas, rich palates, and outstanding acid/tannin balance.
- Vineyard: The Truchard Estate Vineyard is located in the Carneros region of the Napa Valley. It is 380 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 Sauvignon is planted in several different sites - on steep, southwestern facing hillsides. The vines range from 4 - 26 years old, and produce wines that are deep in color, dominated by lush flavors of plum, berry, and spice. Cabernet Franc, grown in the "Highlands" area of the vineyard is blended in to provide additional softness, structure, and complexity.

Harvest: October 17 - November 2 • 24.7 °Brix • 3.52 pH • 6.7 g/L TA

Winemaking: All of the fruit was gently destemmed and crushed, then inoculated with Pasteur Red yeast. Fermentations were pumped-over twice daily, with the temperature peaking at 88° F. Maceration time varied from 14 to 30 days depending on wine lot. The wine was aged for 20 months in French oak barrels (45% new). Rackings occurred every 4 months until bottling in August of 2002. The final blend is 90% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Cabernet Franc. This wine is drinkable upon release, but will continue to develop further complexity over the next 7 - 12 years.

Wine Analysis: 14.2% alcohol • 3.60 pH • 6.0 g/l TA

Tasting Notes:Rich aromas of plum, floral blueberry, and blackberry; with undertones
of cedar, vanilla, and mint. The mouth is smooth and round: bright
flavors of raspberry, plum jam, and black cherry. Velvety tannins focus
the palate and enhance the lengthy finish of spice and ripe red fruit.

Release Date:Oct. 1, 2003Bottle Price:\$35.00