



1999 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation: Napa Valley–Spring Mountain District

Varietals: Cabernet Sauvignon 67%, Merlot 14%,
Petit Verdot 14%, Cabernet Franc 5%

Aging: 22 Months in New French Oak

Production: 3,100 Six-Pack Cases



Winemaker Notes

Utilizing four of the five classic Bordeaux varietals, this Meritage is youthful in appearance with an almost opaque dark ruby color and aromas red fruit, chocolate and white flowers. The berry fruit flavors continue to dominate the palate in this full-bodied, concentrated, rich, layered wine. Firm yet integrated tannins give it a youthful flair, but supple and rich with an extremely long finish to create the ultimate finale.

1999 Vintage

Beautiful spring weather and bud break in early March preceded a cooler than normal summer. Vine fertility was lower than 1998, and despite the smaller crop levels, most vineyards were slow to ripen due to the cool weather. Glorious fall weather pushed the grapes to perfect ripeness, resulting in a mid to late October harvest of grapes that had an ideal combination of intense fruit and balancing acidity.

Spring Mountain Vineyard

Originally four individual historic Napa Valley properties, Miravalle, La Perla, Alba, and Chevalier have now been combined to create an 850-acre estate of forest and vineyard on the eastern slopes of Spring Mountain overlooking the small town of Saint Helena. Over 225 acres of the estate are planted to vine, creating 135 separate hillside vineyard blocks each with its own unique soil, exposure, and microclimate. The vineyard is planted in densities of 4,000 vines per acre and trained to the ancient gobelet form, a vertical trellising method that was invented in an earlier millennium by the Romans.