



CHATEAU ST JEAN®

1999 SONOMA COUNTY

CINQ CÉPAGES CABERNET SAUVIGNON



The Vineyards

The Grapes for this Cabernet Sauvignon blend were selected from the finest Bordeaux variety vineyards in Sonoma County; 30% from Alexander Valley, 29% from Sonoma Valley, 26% from Knights Valley, and 15% from Dry Creek Valley. The Alexander Valley grapes highlight bright berry with back notes of dried herbs, while the Sonoma Valley fruit is from our St. Jean Estate Vineyard, and brings black, dense mountain fruit to the blend. The Knights Valley fruit adds a firm mouthfeel and pronounced tannins and the Dry Creek Valley grapes tend toward dark, dense, black cherry and berry fruit flavors with a rich mouthfeel.

Harvest Dates Sept. 28 – Nov. 1, 1999

Harvest Sugar 24.4° Brix

Total Acidity 0.62 gm/100ml

pH 3.74

Winemaker's Comments

"This wine always reminds me of the holidays," claims Winemaker Steve Reeder, "I lift the glass and welcoming aromas of Yule log, chocolate covered cherries and mocha, invite me in every time. When I taste this wine, I get a medium-bodied entry with big extract that leads to flavors of mocha, black plum, cola and bittersweet chocolate with good intensity and fruit oriented firm tannins. This is a well-structured and well-integrated wine that I look forward to drinking for years to come."


Steve Reeder, Winemaker

Winemaking

Cinq Cépages ("Five Varieties") is a Bordeaux-style blend consisting of Cabernet Sauvignon (76%), Merlot (10%), Cabernet Franc (8%), Malbec (4%), and Petit Verdot (2%). Each component is aged separately for two years in small French oak barrels before blending. Once the wine is assembled, it spends six months in the bottle.

Critical Acclaim

THE TOP 100: WINE OF THE YEAR "...Our #1 Wine of the Year won't surprise those who've tasted this remarkably rich and polished wine as it has evolved. With its uncommon depth, ripe, juicy flavors and plush, velvety texture, Cinq Cépages won votes of admiration from editors for its quality..."

Wine Spectator, December 31, 1999-January 15, 2000

Rated 90+ "...Potentially outstanding. A New World version of a high class St.-Emilion, it boasts an opaque ruby/purple color in addition to a sweet bouquet of licorice, dried herbs, tobacco, smoke, black cherries, and complexity, and a long finish..."

Robert M. Parker, Jr., *Wine Advocate*, August 31, 2002