



2002 Robert Craig Howell Mountain • Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Blend 98% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Merlot
Total Production: 1200 cases

Winemaker Notes The distinctive Howell Mountain *terroir* comes through in this powerful yet elegant Cabernet Sauvignon, revealing the dark mountain fruit, sweet herbs, cracked pepper and warm spices that are hallmarks of the appellation. The solid band of ripe, supple tannins adds beautiful texture to this complex, multi-faceted wine, promising years of superb enjoyment.

Vineyard Characteristics High above Napa Valley in the rugged mountain range east of St. Helena, the Howell Mountain Appellation is the fabled source of superb Cabernet winegrapes. Averaging 2300 feet in elevation, the exceptional vineyards that produce our Howell Mountain Cabernet possess varied microclimates and well-drained red volcanic soil. Moderate climatic conditions during the growing season, with cooler days and warm nights, result in slow ripening of small, intensely flavored berries.

Tasting Notes *Aroma:* Focused, concentrated bouquet of blackberry, wild berry, and currant. *Flavors:* Bright, abundant wild berry, leading into deep blackberry and currant, followed by hints of sweet herbs, pepper and spice. *Finish:* Dense layering of black fruit and mocha expands to include currant and vanilla. *General:* Grows in complexity from first aromas to last, lingering flavors, delivering the best of the Howell Mountain *terroir*.

Wine Information
Winemaker: Chad Alexander
Harvest dates: October 26–November 2
Average sugar: 25.5 ° Brix
TA: .60
pH: 3.67
Alcohol: 14.6%
Barrel Aging: 19 months in Chateau-style French oak.
Bottling Date: July 2004
Price: California suggested retail price is \$50.00 per bottle.
Release Date: September 2005