



2003 Robert Craig Mt. Veeder • Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Blend 96% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Cabernet Franc, 1% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot
Only 1535 cases produced

Winemaker Notes

The 2003 Mt. Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon has the exceptional power and structure that comes from mountain fruit grown at the highest elevations in Napa Valley. The distinctive Mt. Veeder character is at the core in its deep, succulent fruit, while the round, ripe mountain tannins provide the backbone for cellaring.

Vineyard Characteristics

This single-vineyard source that Robert Craig helped to plant in 1990 is located at 1800 feet along the mountain's summit. The contours of this 26-acre site offer quintessential Mt. Veeder terrain – complex and challenging, with multiple hillside exposures and changes in elevation. The resulting microclimates create varied weather patterns which influence grape development and ripening. The well-drained sandstone and blue slate soils provide an ideal foundation for growing small, concentrated berries. Each vineyard block is managed separately and grapes are picked in small quantities over several weeks to insure perfect ripeness. Individual vineyard lots remain separate throughout barrel fermentation, with the master blend crafted from optimum barrel selection to create a complex, multifaceted wine.

Tasting Notes

Aroma: Forward, rich aromas of black fruit, mocha, and bay leaf. *Flavors:* Concentrated, deep layers of black cherry and wild berry, shaded with cassis, dark caramel, mocha, and cedar. *Finish:* Generous berry flavors carry through with impressive length, remaining smooth and inviting. *General:* A supple, beautifully balanced Mt. Veeder Cabernet with pure flavors and a fine tannin structure, exhibiting power and grace.

Wine Information

Winemaker: Chad Alexander
Harvest dates: September 17–November 3
Average sugar: 25.9° Brix
TA: .58
pH: 3.68
Alcohol: 14.9%
Barrel Aging: 24 months in Chateau-style French oak, 70% new and 30% second year
Bottling Date: November 2005
Price: California suggested retail price is \$70.00 per bottle.
Release Date: June 2006