

Paul Hobbs

2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer Dr. Crane Vineyard Napa Valley

Vineyard

- ◆ Owner: Andy Beckstoffer
- ◆ Appellation: St. Helena, Napa Valley
- ◆ Clones: 4 & 337
- ◆ Vine Age: 8 years
- ◆ Site: Gravelly, alluvial soils; Cortina and Bale Loam
- ◆ Yield: 3.4 tons/acre

Harvest

- ◆ Harvest Date: September 27, 2003
- ◆ Harvest Brix: 25.8°
- ◆ Growing Season: The growing season was comprised of cool spring weather followed by moderate temperatures throughout summer. Consistent work in the vineyard was required to maximize sun exposure and encourage full flavor development in the fruit. Much needed hot weather in mid-September secured an excellent harvest.

Winemaking

- ◆ Hand-harvested grapes
- ◆ Fermented in small, closed-top stainless steel fermentors with indigenous yeasts
- ◆ 5 to 7 day cold soak, 28 to 36 days total maceration
- ◆ Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrels; 4 months to completion
- ◆ Aged 21 months in Taransaud, Seguin moreau and Radoux French oak barrels; 100% new
- ◆ Varietal Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
- ◆ Unblended, unfined and unfiltered; Bottled July 2005

Notes

- ◆ Deep, rich, blue-black in color, our inaugural release from this historic vineyard is an exquisite, round, mouth-filling cabernet sauvignon. Despite its weight and intensity, the nose and palate are open and generous, and the fruit and oak well-integrated. Scented with plum and black cherry it offers up an abundance of ripe plum, cherry and holiday spice on the palate, balanced with toasty coffee and caramel. Full-bodied and plush, it finishes long with notes of vanilla and black pepper and ripe, polished tannins. Alcohol 15.2%