



FRAZIER WINERY

TASTING NOTES

1997 FRAZIER CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Winemaking Summary

The 1997 Frazier Cabernet Sauvignon was handpicked between September 27 and Oct 3, 1997. Each of the four vineyard blocks was picked at optimum ripeness. At the winery, the grapes were de-stemmed and crushed with 10% to 25% whole berries remaining. After 3 days of cold soaking, the juice was inoculated with Pristine yeast and pumped over 2 times per day for a period of 14 days. At dryness, the tanks were closed for extended maceration. The free run wine was drained from the tanks on the average of 42 days later, keeping the press wine separate. The wine was then barreled down into 75% new French oak and 25% new American oak barrels. Each lot was kept separate to allow the wines to develop as individual blending components. At the end of the first year of aging, portions from each vineyard block were selected to create this blend along with 6.3% Merlot. The blended wine was then returned to barrels for an additional 9 months. The finished wine was lightly egg-white fined, filtered, and bottled. This wine was bottled on August 31 and September 1, 1999.

Tasting Notes

The wine's color is a dark ruby color with dark brooding hue. The upfront aromas of black berries, cassis, and toasted almonds are very expressive. In the mouth, the fruit flavors of raspberries, black cherries and currants with spicy elements of vanilla, coconut and cloves are very well proportioned to the wine's tannic backbone. The richness from the very ripe fruit achieves a texture that is almost syrup-like. The wine finishes with a long and French oak-sweetened lingering aftertaste, which beckons one for another sip. This is the best Cabernet Sauvignon to date. Robert Parker wrote that this wine would lie down for 12-15 years.

Technical Information

Harvest Dates: September 27-October 3, 1997

Blend Information: 93.7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6.3% Merlot

Alcohol: 14.6%

Oak Program: 21 months in French and American Oak

Cases Produced: 2606

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