



2005 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Philosophy

Since our pioneering effort planting Cabernet Sauvignon in 1974, the Sierra Vista Cabernet Sauvignons have been known for exceptional richness and intense fruit. Ripe black-cherry fruit character is the result of leaf pulling and hedging to open the vines. A rigorous program of mildew control is always necessary to keep the Cabernet Sauvignon clean at our high elevation. Twenty-two months in 50% new French oak barrels adds complexity to the 100% Cabernet Sauvignon fruit.



Vineyard Source

Planted in 1982, these vines are on a volcanic based soil on a west-facing slope. There are two blocks, one is trellised with bilateral cordons and the other is quadrilateral. They are contiguous to one another but due to the trellising, they ripen at different times. The fruit quality from these vines is excellent, with wonderful traditional Cabernet Sauvignon character.

2005 Vintage

We had an early, very warm, spring leading to early bud-break. This was followed by several inches of rain, some snow, sleet and hail with colder temperatures into mid April. It wasn't until a warm spell in late May that we started seeing significant shoot growth in the vineyard. Summer was unusual with a month of cooler than average temperatures followed by a record breaking hot July and then a cool down into September. We started harvesting in the third week of September – much later than the last several years but only a week behind our average start date..

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

The wine exhibits deep, dark fruit characterized by black cherry, plum, blackberry, and currant combined with vanilla and a slight hint of cedar and leather. This deeply colored Cabernet combines firm, gripping, yet extremely smooth tannins that give full-bodied texture while waves of fruit come and go, contributing to a deep richness on the palate and an ultra-long finish which goes on and on. The fusion of ripe fruit with well integrated oak express Cabernet Sauvignon to the fullest and perfectly represents Sierra Vista mountain vineyard terroir. This wine represents an excellent accompaniment to red meat dishes and other hearty foods or stands alone perfectly on a winter evening. Drink now through 2020.

Harvest date	September 11
Sugar at Harvest	24. Brix
Time in Oak	22 months
Bottling Date	August 2007
Cases Produced	320

John MacCready, Owner & Winemaker