



*2002*

*Very Special Red*

**Production:** 1,104 bottles

**Varietal:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Appellation:** Napa Valley

**Vineyards:** 25% Beckstoffer Dr. Crane  
25% Bella Vista #5 Diamond Mountain  
50% Bella Vista #1 Diamond Mountain

**Barrels:** 100% New French  
**Barrel age:** 28 months

**Yeast:** Pasteur Red  
**Maceration:** 0 Brix plus 2 days  
**Fermentation Temp:** Optimum 84F  
**Alcohol:** 14.4%  
**pH:** 3.71  
**Total acid:** 0.69 g/100ml

**Bottled:** April 7, 2005

**Suggested Bottle Age:** 9-14 years



2002

VSR

Special events occur which you remember forever and ever. For the second time in the decade a "special event" described as "VSR", popped up and screamed, "Take me..." Yes, there it was, another reserve Cab that just had to be blended.

For the vintage lots, much like the 1994 lots, I tasted through and selected just 4 barrels to ride the pumpkin coach to the ball. The has wonderful structure and fruit and polished tannins, much like the other fine vintages of the decade, but these particular barrels were stunning.

Unlike many winemakers who bottle a reserve every year, we just felt that in really stellar vintages, we should seek out the best barrels for the VSR program. This bottling of VSR reserve represents just a few cases; cases which will be hidden away for our best friends and supporters.

With longer aging in new French oak, sustained bottling aging before release, and a handsome bottle and label as with the 1994 wine, the package is complete!

The deep ruby and purple color of the VSR will inspire you to explore the full intensity of the Cab fruit, with aromatics of black cherry, anise, cassis, barley, and blackberry pie. Please decant the wine to allow it to breathe and develop into the full rich and elegant sweetheart that it is. The polished tannin will add the full breadth of structure and finesse that is required in all fine long-lived reds. The flavors and finish of the VSR will shout out "Wow!" You will truly enjoy this VSR wine!

Cheers!

Tom Eddy