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CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2005



VINEYARDS

This muscular red owes its power to a blend of 50% North Coast and 50% Central Coast grapes, including small lots of Merlot, Syrah and Petite Sirah. What drives it is a sizable amount of fruit from Sonoma County's Alexander Valley and Dry Creek Valley — warm-climate regions producing ripe, intensely flavored Cabernet grapes. The long, cool 2005 growing season helped fuel the big lush tones of this luxury Cab.

WINEMAKING

Traditional old-world assembly included fermentation in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks, with extended maceration of the juice and skins to ensure a color and flavor-saturated chassis. Extended oak aging polished the exterior of this luxurious red, which under its dark hood hums with refined power and complexity.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES BY MELISSA "THE DRIVER" BATES

"This is one suave, well-upholstered Cab! Dark, smoky fruit tones, with fragrant coffee and mocha scents, strap you in, while rich blackberry and blackcurrant fruit flavors transport you and supple tannins bring you home in style. Savor this big boy with rib roasts, grilled steak, rack of lamb and flavorful cheeses, or just sit back, sip and remember — life's a journey, enjoy the ride."

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VARIETALS 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot,
4% Syrah, 3% Petite Sirah

APPELLATION California

GROWING REGIONS 50% North Coast (*Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake counties*)
50% Central Coast (*Monterey, San Luis Obispo counties*)

FERMENTATION 100% stainless steel

AGING Neutral French oak barrels

ALCOHOL 13.5%

TOTAL ACIDITY 0.58 g/100 ml

PH 3.63