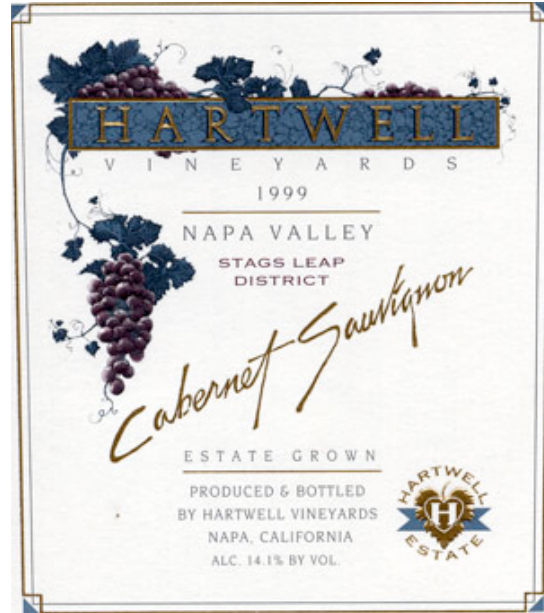




1999 Hartwell Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley Stags Leap District

Internationally recognized since the mid 1970's, Napa Valley's Stags Leap District has consistently demonstrated an ability to produce world class Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. The cooler growing conditions of this southeastern corner of the Napa Valley, along with the limiting soils and hillside exposures of the Hartwell Estate provide an ideal environment for our Cabernet Sauvignon vineyards.

In 1999 we saw normal Spring temperatures and bud break in early March followed by a cooler-than-normal summer season. Vine fertility was slightly decreased from 1998, with both fewer clusters per shoot and fewer berries per cluster. Despite those lower crop levels, however, most Napa Valley vineyards were slow to ripen because of the moderate summer temperatures. The longer ripening season, culminating in a mid-October harvest led to wonderful fruit intensity and soft tannins, even on our hillside estate vineyards.



“Intense cassis and blackberry aromas complex with toast oak and vanilla tones, some dark cocoa and a bit of sweet anise in this concentrated, hillside cabernet. The mouthful is as intense as the aromas suggest, yet the layers of flavor complexity are presented in a surprisingly soft, integrated structure. True to its Stags Leap District heritage, this Cabernet shows a velvet lining with its suppleness and elegance.”

-- Winemaker Notes

Appellation: Stag's Leap District
Vineyards: 100% Estate Grown
Varietal Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Aging: 22 months in new French oak barrels
Produced: 1300 cs. – 750 ml, 300 bts. – 1.5 L
Release date: October 1, 2002