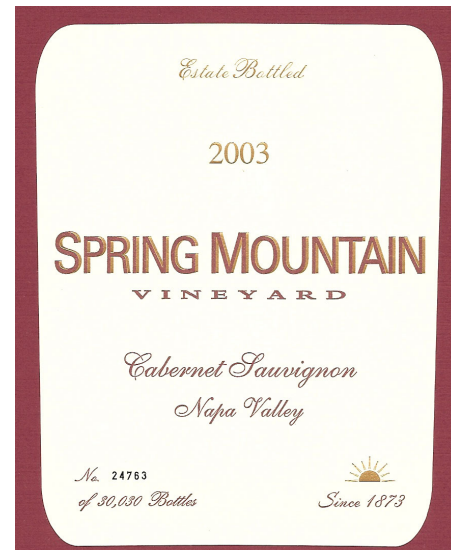


2003 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation:	Napa Valley-Spring Mountain District
Vineyards:	La Perla, Chevalier, Miravalle, Alba
Varietals:	Cabernet Sauvignon 76%, Merlot 20%, Petit Verdot 4%
Aging:	22 Months in 50% New French Oak; 50% in 2 & 4 Year Old French Oak Barrels
Production:	2,490 Cases
Retail Price:	\$50.00



Winemaker Notes

As a pure expression of mountain grapes our 2003 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon is redolent with notes of blackberry, cherry, dark chocolate, and red currants laced with exotic spices and hints of cigar box. The palate greets you with a lush rendering of the same ripe red fruit and dark cocoa. Balanced with a long, firm finish, this Cabernet develops multiple layers on the palate while fully coating the mouth. Full bodied and effusively flavorful this wine is both supple and elegant promising youthful delight and maturing beauty. Decant to release the abundant flavors and aromas of this youthful and vibrant cabernet.

2003 Vintage

A light winter was followed by dry weather and bud break that occurred in mid March with bloom 60 days later. Spring and early summer saw beautiful, mild weather interrupted by two heat waves in September. We were able to ride out the heat spikes and extend harvest later into the season, giving the Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Petit Verdot ample hang time to become physiologically mature. The 2003 Spring Mountain vintage yielded wines with great fruit expression, balance and soft, ripe tannins.

Spring Mountain Vineyard

Originally four individual historic Napa Valley properties, Miravalle, La Perla, Alba, and Chevalier have now been combined to create an 850 acre estate of forest and vineyard on the eastern slopes of Spring Mountain overlooking the small town of Saint Helena. Over 225 acres of the estate are planted to vine, creating 135 separate hillside vineyard blocks each with its own unique soil, exposure, and microclimate. The vineyard is planted in densities of 4,000 vines per acre and trained to the ancient gobelet form, a vertical trellising method that was invented in an earlier millennium by the Romans.