



MONTICELLO VINEYARDS
CORLEY FAMILY NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE 2003
CORLEY RESERVE
Cabernet Sauvignon

Small winery; Big reputation. The CORLEY FAMILY grows and produces 15,000 cases of exclusively Napa Valley wines designated as MONTICELLO VINEYARDS, CORLEY RESERVE and our CORLEY Proprietary Red Wine. We grow Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Syrah on five small vineyard sites in the Oak Knoll, Yountville, Rutherford and St. Helena appellations of Napa Valley.

Tasting Notes

Aromatics of red berries, blackberry, coffee, and chocolate with the oak nicely woven into the thread and the flavors following similarly in profile to the aromatics. This wine shows nice consistency and balance throughout the entire experience - from the aromatics through to the finish. The wine has a full rich attack that coats the mouth with richness. The tannins are full, but approachable, and should evolve nicely as this wine develops with time. The finish is full and lingers on the back of the palate with firm, but appropriate tannin.

"In 2003 we separated some select lots from our State Lane and Tietjen vineyards to use for the Corley Reserve program. These free run lots were selected for their textural, aromatic, and flavor balances. As is typical, our Corley Reserve blends carry a higher percentage of new oak than the Monticello Vineyards Jefferson Cuvee offerings. In 2003, I used roughly 40% new oak, heavily toasted from the Troncais forest in France. We utilized barrels from several different coopers.

The wine was barrel aged for 22 months, during this time it was racked gently several times to clarify naturally. Blending was done in stages - the preliminary blend was done in February 2005, the final blend about a month before bottling. - Chris Corley, Winemaker

Varietals and Vineyards

Cabernet Sauvignon (90%)

State Lane Vineyard - Yountville, Napa Valley

This Cabernet Sauvignon shows a great core of deep, dark black fruits with big, rich, chewy tannins - Blockbuster Napa Cabernet Sauvignon.

Tietjen Vineyard on Niebaum Lane - Rutherford, Napa Valley

The Cabernet Sauvignon from this vineyard shows a great core of berry fruit with tremendous brightness. It also adds an elegance and suppleness to the texture of the wine.

Cabernet Franc (6%) and Merlot (4%)

Knollwood Vineyard - Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley

Home Ranch Vineyard - Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley

The Merlot offers bright red berry and black berry flavors with a supple texture. The Cabernet Franc offers classic red fruit flavors, spicy aromatics and a velvety texture.

Alcohol 14.5%
