



2001 Cabernet Sauvignon

Release Date: *Fall 2004*
Suggested Retail Price: *\$55*
Vineyard Location: *Long Meadow Ranch Bear Canyon Vineyard (100%)*
Harvest Dates: *September 23-30, 2001*
Varietal Composition: *97% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc*
Brix at Harvest: *24.0°*
Cooperage: *Aged 26 months in French oak coopered by Seguin-Moreau. Medium toast. 50 percent new.*
Alcohol: *13.5%*
Production: *Less than 1500 cases*
Food Affinities: *Perfect with Long Meadow Ranch Grass-fed Highland Beef, with lamb, or with roasted game.*

Growing Season: Despite a roller coaster growing season, the 2001 Napa Valley grape harvest was great. March was cold and harsh, with two deceptive heat spikes into the 80s, which coaxed the vines into a slightly earlier bloom. The subsequent April frost, lasting two consecutive nights, gave some cause for concern. Temperatures in July burst into the 100s for several days but fortunately with a cooler average climate at higher altitudes, and one-third less fog than the valley floor, the heat spikes did not affect Long Meadow Ranch. August cooled down to perfect, average high temperatures of 85° and almost chilly nights to put the vines back on track. This allowed the grapes, to settle, extending the all-important hang time and balance the flavor profiles with the rising sugar levels.

Winemaker's Comments: This elegant wine has deep garnet color with beautiful purple edges. The nose carries bordelaise characteristics with tea, tobacco, cedar, and ripe black fruit. On the palate there are powerful tannins giving a rich full-bodied mouth feel including briar patch and dried black tea. Finishing smoothly the wine has a complex earthiness knitted with dark fruit.
-Ashley Heisey

The Vineyards: Southwest-facing estate vineyards at 1100 feet elevation atop the Mayacamas Mountains at the edge of Bear Canyon. Development began in 1990. Managed by organic pioneer Frank Leeds. Budwood hand-selected from the Bella Oaks Vineyard in Rutherford and Jordan Vineyard in Alexander Valley, planted on 110R rootstock at 9x5 spacing and using contoured terraces. This is the first vineyard established on Long Meadow Ranch since before Prohibition.

Long Meadow Ranch: Owned by Ted and Laddie Hall, LMR employs an integrated organic farming system using simple, sustainable methods. Each part of the Ranch contributes to the health of the whole. Vineyards and wine making, olive orchards and olive oil making, cattle and horse breeding all work together in complementary fashion, as do the egg-laying poultry flock and the organic vegetable gardens. "Estate" fertilizers are created through an extensive composting operation that relies on organic material from each segment of the Ranch. Soil erosion is controlled and new soils are built through the extensive use of permanent cover crops made up of carefully selected grasses, clovers, and legumes. All crops are certified organic by the California Certified Organic Farmers and are grown without the use of herbicides, pesticides, or chemical fertilizers.

Long Meadow Ranch

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