**WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS**

This Cabernet Sauvignon combines richness and concentration with an incredible sense of elegance and finesse. The layers of blackberry, anise, and cassis with just the right amount of toast create a wonderful aroma. Copiously flavored with black currant, truffle, black raspberry with espresso, this wine becomes more complex as it slowly opens up. The finish firms up nicely with ripe round tannins that give it a concentrated and well-focused core of fruit.

**WINEMAKING**

The 2004 growing season started out early and warm with many days in March reaching 85 degrees Fahrenheit. The warm weather continued throughout spring leading to bloom occurring three weeks ahead of schedule. We thinned the crop more than usual during June and July and opened the canopy to expose the fruit to sunlight, which helps intensify color and flavor of the grapes. At harvest time, we found the fruit quality was exceptional with yields about 50% of average.