

JOSEPH PHELPS

VINEYARDS

Cabernet Sauvignon

NAPA VALLEY

1995 Vintage



TASTING NOTES The 1995 Cabernet is a powerful, extracted wine, with a rich oak component underlying the spicy, peppery flavors. As the wine continues to evolve it reveals cherry and plum-like aromas, rich, mature tannins, and the potential to outlive the excellent '94 vintage.

GROWING SEASON The 1995 growing season was characterized by a wet spring, followed by cool weather in June and July. Ripening and flavor development finally began in August, with the onset of a warm spell which prevailed throughout September and most of October. Tonnage was down throughout the North Coast, and berry size was smaller than normal, producing wines of deep color and rich, extractive flavors. The surprise of the year for us was the quality of the Petite Verdot, which has contributed both color and texture to the final blend. Although not yet in full production, we have over ten acres of the varietal planted on our Spring Valley ranch and hold high hopes for its fixture.

WINEMAKING NOTES

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN VINEYARD SELECTIONS

93% Cabernet Sauvignon	37% Estate grown fruit
5% Merlot	63% Trusted grower fruit
2% Cabernet Franc	

BARREL AGING

The wine was aged for twenty months in 30% new American oak and 70% French oak barrels before bottling.