

# SMITH-MADRONE

NAPA VALLEY

## *Winemaker's Notes*

2003 CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Looking for that old fashioned Napa Valley kick-ass Cabernet Sauvignon, but without all those harsh tannins? Here it is. On the palate it is big, smooth, full and has a velvety mouthfeel. Combine that with a very dark, purplish and very deep ruby-black red color. The aroma is just as intriguing, with briary and black cherry aromas, distinct suggestions of crushed violets and lavender and underneath it all are the elegant notes of dark chocolate. If you are getting the idea that we like this wine – you bet we do! Here is a hedonist's wine, begging for that grilled steak. See it, smell it and taste it – it's consistent from beginning to end, as great wine should be. Enjoy!

At Smith-Madrone our goal is to make artisanal wines which are distinctive and are an expression of both the vintage and us, as vintners, but above all else, are wines which bring pleasure to the senses. Every year our wine is made from the same vineyards, pruned by the same people in the same way, cultivated in exactly the same manner and harvested at similar levels of maturity, yet Mother Nature stamps each vintage with a unique set of flavors, senses and character. Vintage dating is a celebration of that uniqueness and diversity.

AGE OF VINES: 32 years

APPELLATION: Napa Valley

SUB-APPELLATION: Spring Mountain District

FARMING: dry-farmed mountain vineyards

VARIETAL CONTENT: Cabernet Sauvignon 82%, Merlot 10%, Cabernet franc 8%

TIME IN OAK: 22 months in new American oak barrels

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME: 13.8%

FINING: unfinned

FILTRATION: unfiltered

PRODUCTION: 2302 cases

WINEMAKERS & WINEGROWERS: Charles Smith & Stuart Smith

WEB SITE: [www.smithmadrone.com](http://www.smithmadrone.com)