

Silverado Vineyards has made excellent Cabernet Sauvignon since 1981, but only eleven vintages have merited the rare Limited Reserve label. Limited Reserves are produced only in the finest years, when small lots of wine are blended to express the essence of classic, ageworthy Napa Valley Cabernet.

**Vintage Notes:**

Until the very end, 2002 was a mild season with few hot spells, and maturation was slow. It started icily, with frost in April and rains in May. After veraison, warm days and cool nights accelerated ripening, and by September the real heat kicked in, leading to a compressed harvest. Intense flavors and excellent balance were the happy result of the cool summer, and richness the outcome of warm picking weather.

**Harvest Dates:**

September 21 through  
October 8

**Varietal Composition:**

100 percent Cabernet Sauvignon

**Appellation:**

Napa Valley

**Vineyard Locations:**

77 percent Stags Leap District  
23 percent Mt. George Vineyard

**Bottling Date:**

September 2004  
1,958 cases

**Winemaking Notes:**

Average Brix at harvest was 26.7°; moderate yields of 4.1 tons per acre translated into concentrated fermentation lots; 18 days' maceration on skins; aged 19 months in chateau-style barrels, 69 percent new, 97 percent French oak.

**Analysis:**

Titrateable acidity 5.96 grams per liter; pH 3.62; alcohol 14.1 percent; volatile acidity 0.60 grams per liter

**Tasting Notes:**

Brilliant dark cassis color; aromas of ripe cherry, dried herbs, savory spices and cocoa; round and weighty, with well-integrated stone fruit and sweet oak flavors, well-framed by lively tannins and balanced acidity, with a mannerly but youthful finish.