

1982 Cabernet Sauvignon
Technical Information

Harvest dates:	September 22 to October 15
Varietal composition:	94 percent Cabernet Sauvignon 6 percent Merlot
Vineyard location:	Napa Valley Estate-Disney Vineyard
Bottling date:	July 16 to 25, 1984
Release date:	March 1, 1985
Total Production:	8,000 cases

The hallmark of a great Cabernet vineyard is that it produces fine wine year after year, maintaining consistent high quality and asserting its unique character over different vintages. In 1982 the harvest began a month later than the previous year, yields were up significantly, and the weather was cool and moist. Despite these contrasts, Silverado's 1982 Cabernet Sauvignon bears the unmistakable stamp of its excellent vineyard-heritage, one that has produced more than its share of gold-medal wines. Made in the traditional Bordeaux manner and aged in French oak, the wine has ripe, currant-y aromas and an elegant, silky flavor. Beneath its appealing youthfulness is a firm, balanced structure that suggests a long life and continued improvement.

Some Statistics: Average harvest sugar, 23.6 degrees Brix; malolactic fermentation, 100 percent; 11 months in French oak barrels.

Analysis: Alcohol, 13.9 percent; pH 3.37; volatile acidity 0.49 grams per liter.

May 2005 tasting notes: Still strong acids providing structure while the tannins have softened. Maple, black licorice, crème de cassis, mahogany, cardamom, clove, cumin, dried fruits.