

VIADER

NAPA VALLEY

2002 VIADER “V”

72% Petit Verdot
25% Cabernet Sauvignon ✦ 3% Cabernet Franc

RELEASE DATE: October 1, 2004

OWNER: Delia Viader, Ph.D.

WINEMAKER: Delia Viader, Ph.D.

APPELLATION: Napa Valley (on Howell Mountain)

HARVEST DATES: October 12, 2002

AVG. BRIX AT HARVEST: 24.5° **PH:** 3.80

PRODUCTION: 330 cases



“V” IN BRIEF:

“V” is an exclusive Viader blend with a primary focus on Petit Verdot rounded up with Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. Each year, differing amounts of these varietals are carefully selected to create a blend that best expresses the character and nature of the Viader Estate. “V” is intended to highlight the sophistication of Petit Verdot as a varietal, apart from its tremendous blending capabilities.



WHY “V”?

Petit Verdot imparts deep color, tannin and piquant spice to the blend while Cabernet Sauvignon maintains the balance, providing a strong backbone upon which to display the exoticism of Viader Petit Verdot. For the 2002, we used an abnormally high percentage (72%) of Petit Verdot. The mild growing season allowed the more “gentle” tannins to show through. In a smaller percentage, Cabernet Franc was blended to add plushness to the finish and accentuate the intense flavors in the wine. The result of this unique combination is a vibrant, sumptuous wine with a powerful presence.

THE TERROIR OF “V”:

The fruit for this wine originates on the vertically planted slopes of the Viader Estate. Located on the northeast side of Saint Helena, the vineyards sit atop 1,200 feet of lower Howell Mountain. The Petit Verdot vines face northwest on exposed rocky terrain, which simultaneously limits yields while forcing the grapes to ripen under an acceptable amount of duress.

THE VINIFICATION OF “V”:

The lots for “V” are hand-selected and vinified separately. We use extended maceration and malolactic fermentation occurs in the barrel. “V” is aged for 24 months in 100% new small French Oak barrels. The 2002 vintage produced 330 cases.

THE 2002 GROWING SEASON:

Due to the elevation of the Viader Vineyards, the 2002 season produced optimum results at towering heights; warm days and cool nights well into the season allowed the berries to consistently ripen while maintaining a balance between desired acidity and welcoming fruit notes. Yields were small to normal. Our vineyards are organic and biodynamically farmed.

