

# Ranch House Red

## 2000 Cabernet Sauvignon

### North Coast

**D**eerfield Ranch House Red is our every day Cabernet. We blended our smoothest, most developed barrels of Cabernet with a little Merlot to make this easy drinking wine. The 2000 Vintage Ranch House Red is from three vineyards: Roumiguere in Lake County, Russian River Vineyards in Russian River Valley, Sonoma County, and the Rust Ridge Vineyard in Chiles Valley, Napa County. These three Counties make up three of the four California North Coast Appellation (the fourth county is Mendocino). Each vineyard and appellation added harmonious complexity and depth to the blend.

We used our well established whole-berry fermentation techniques to retain full bodied fruitiness. The Roumiguere lot was kept on the skins for an extended period of time to better integrate the tannins, making the blend more rounded. We used both French and American barrels for aging. Blending was done to taste after 10 months. The blend was fined with egg whites to further reduce tannin and aid clarification. Racking left the egg whites and tannins behind to reveal a round and brilliantly clear wine with enhanced fruit flavors and better varietal characteristics.

#### Harvest & Winemaking Data:

Winemakers: Robert Rex and Michael Browne  
Blend: 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot  
75% Roumiguere Vineyard  
Lake County (CS and Merlot)  
15% Russian River Vineyard  
Sonoma County  
10% Rust Ridge Vineyard  
Napa County  
Harvested: Between Nov. 3 & 8, 2000  
Brix at Harvest: 22.5° to 23.8°  
Acid at Harvest: 5.4 to 6.2 g/L  
pH: 3.58 to 3.79  
Yeast: Bordeaux Red and CSM  
Fermentation: Open Top and closed tanks, punched down and pumped over  
Aging: Roumiguere on staves for 12 months. Others in 80% French, 20% American barrels 30% new for 14 months  
Fining: egg whites at 3 per barrel  
Filtration: High tech, non stripping .65 micron cartridge at bottling  
SO<sub>2</sub> at Bottling: 16 ppm free  
Bottled: 1,263 cases – February 22, 2002  
Alcohol: 12.5%  
Residual sugar: 0.2%  
Released: January 15, 2003  
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