



## STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS

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Available September, 1981

CABERNET SAUVIGNON, Stag's Leap Vineyards, Lot 2, 1978 is the second ~~regular bottling of our estate grown Cabernet.~~ This wine is aptly described in the March 1 Release Letter on Lot 1, as follows:

"From a wine only fairly auspicious in its early stages, the 1978 Cabernet Sauvignon from Stag's Leap Vineyards has become one of the most elegant, if not the most complete, graceful and fortunate example of the variety from that vineyard.

After two years of drought, the winter-spring of '77-'78 brought abundant moisture, favoring the responsive vines. At first, we thought the wines perhaps too open and yielding, and liable, with time, to lack firmness. But that original softness has reconstituted itself with the tannins, and the wines show an appropriate structural hardness in the finish.

The nose is a beautifully fruity collage of elements which reflect the return to easier times after stress. The body, still showing the discipline of lean years, has a compact trimness. About 2% Merlot has been blended to moderate those sharp edges."

Lot 2 differs from Lot 1 in that it embodies parts of the vineyard which show more effect of the tension described above. Consequently, Lot 2 is an even more perfect example of our stylistic goal for Cabernet.

### 1980 White Riesling, Birkmyer Vineyards

1.0% sugar by weight  
.73% acid by vol., 10.7% alcohol

continues in the style of our previous Rieslings, combining a slight sweetness with the appropriate acidity for freshness, balance and plump fruitiness. The color is a very pale gold, slightly traced with green. A spring-like freshness in the aroma suggests newly-cut ripe pears. A melange of fruit flavors enhances the overall impression of delicacy and lightness, supported by the moderate 10.7% alcohol. The wine finishes with an appealing balance between the acid and the just-perceptible sweetness, suggesting a wide range of food accompaniments.

### 1979 Chardonnay, Haynes Vineyard

is our weightiest Chardonnay to date. The alcohol also converted at a higher rate even though the basic sugar was not exceptionally higher for the vintage. The result is a wine of large proportions, but with the lean texture typical of this vineyard. Beautiful oak-laced nose, abundance of fruit, long generous finish, and fine acid balance without heaviness is the overall impression. An excellent variation on the Haynes theme.