

September 1988

STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS 1984 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, SLV, CASK 23

We are proud to announce the release of our 1984 Cabernet Sauvignon, SLV, Cask Twenty-Three. The Cask Twenty-Three designation is reserved for vintages of exceptional merit.

In 1984, rains ceased by the end of February and mild weather brought the vines out of dormancy weeks ahead of schedule. Extremely warm summer days hastened ripening, and the harvest began two or three weeks early. The early bud break actually allowed the fruit to stay on the parent vine for a normal length of time. This meant that there was no premature separation of fruit and nourishing vine, allowing the grapes to go through a normal evolution. There were no early fall showers, and the fruit was picked in outstanding condition. The resulting wine is voluptuous in fruit with good supporting tannins and aromas of crushed violets and cedar. In the mouth, the taste of black plum and white pepper combines with assertive French oak. A fine acidity and a resonant finish promise longevity.

This outstanding Cask Twenty-Three joins an illustrious group with its own personality. Incidentally, this wine will become a collector's candidate since it is the last Cask Twenty-Three to be bottled without the new escutcheon blown into the glass.