

*Girard*  
NAPA VALLEY  
1998  
**NAPA VALLEY RED**

Our Cabernet blend is silky smooth with a very fruit forward style supported with soft tannins. Luscious cherry, blueberry, blackberry, and licorice flavors are followed by hints of spice and caramel. The soft tannins provide a complex middle that follows with a long, creamy finish..

The blend consists of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc. We took our grapes from 5 different vineyards, primarily from Oakville. Total cases made: 2,700

**Winemaking**

Our grapes were hand sorted and gently crushed. We used native yeast for fermentation and the wine underwent malolactic fermentation in the barrel. Aged 18 months in French oak and then bottled unfined and unfiltered.

- **Alc 14.8%**
- **PH 3.72**
- **TA .66g/100ml**

**Ratings**

*The Wine Enthusiast, May 2002* 90 Points. Smooth and supple on the palate, the wine is brimming with ripe black cherry, blackberry, anise and cassis flavors that are followed by hints of coffee and herb. The ensemble is framed in rich, silky tannins that taper off with a long, lush finish. –J.M.

*The Wine Advocate, January 2000* Robert Parker who tasted the wine before we bottled it, rating the wine with a high of 90 points, described this wine as “exhibits smoky cassis aromas, an elegant sweet attack, moderate tannin, and a rich, nicely textured, stylish, graceful finish”

*Connoisseurs Guide, April, 2002* 🌸 One Puff, 89. Attractively fruited aromas that are both ripe and somewhat narrow and nervy in style show a nice bit of currant and a rich note of creamy oak. The wine is supple and well-polished in mouth-feel, and its currant and black cherry flavors hold nicely across the palate and let up only a bit at the end to heat and late-arriving acidity. A few years in the bottle should be beneficial.