



FROG'S LEAP

2000 RUTHERFORD

THE BLEND

80% Cabernet Sauvignon
35% Leeds ~ 45% Bella Oaks
20% Cabernet Franc
100% Leeds

APPELLATION

100% Rutherford

PRODUCTION

750 cases

RELEASE DATE

October 2003

STATISTICS

harvest ~

September 24 – October 17
23.8 ° brix at harvest
0.62 g/100 ml TA
3.49 pH
13.9 % alcohol

WINEMAKING

crushed and destemmed to tank
cold soaked 1½ days
native and inoculated yeast
average 17 days skin contact
malolactic fermentation
completed in barrel
aged 24 month
100% one-year old
French oak

WINEMAKERS

John Williams
Paula Siroky

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

Winemakers entered the 21st century with a classic year for red wine: normal winter rainfall, perfect bud break, even flowering, predictable showers during set, then slow, even ripening right up to the start of the even-paced harvest. After a brief heat spike in June, the valley experienced a mostly mild summer and early fall allowing for a slow, steady ripening. The unexpected bit of September rainfall caused no real alarm, as it cooled the heat of Indian Summer and provided a little extra hang-time for the fruit's flavors and sugars to develop.

ABOUT THE WINE

Our senses are such a powerful part of our being. The slightest smell or taste can easily evoke a memory: the sweetness of a freshly picked pear, the dampness of a cool, dusky basement, the aroma wafting from a mug of steaming hot cocoa on a chilly afternoon - carrying us back to a wonderful moment of long ago. Wine has tremendous potential for "memory flashbacks"; those indescribable moments when one is recalled to another place and time. Imagine making a wine that can consistently, year after year, transport you back to the place where it was made. A wine that smells of the earth and air from which it was born: a wine that is as recognizable as an old friend. This is Rutherford.

Vintage nuance and small changes in the blend contribute to the final outcome but it is the dynamic layers of earth, dust, black fruit and herbs that truly define our Rutherford. The 2000 Frog's Leap Rutherford embodies this common thread: balance and complexity with the ability to beckon your return - a wine that is the ultimate definition of a true sense of place.