

## WINE RECOMMENDATION

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### Mill Creek Vineyards and Winery

#### 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon, Kreck Family Vineyards (Sonoma County)

In 1965, the Kreck family moved to southern Dry Creek Valley and planted grapes. By 1982, they had opened a tasting room, and today own their 55-acre ranch along with 8 acres of vineyards in the Alexander Valley. Seven family members, including winemaker Jeremy Kreck, are involved. They produce Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Gewürztraminer, Chardonnay, and Sauvignon Blanc.

Dry Creek Valley is well-known for intense, old-vine Zinfandel, which benefits from a multitude of factors including diurnal variation, a refreshing cool-down after a hot day which serves to slow down and give a more relaxed pace to the ripening season. The area recently has tried to bring focus to its other success stories, most notably its sunshine-imbued Cabernet Sauvignons.

This wine is a great example. On the nose are decadent fruit notes of plum, cassis, and mulberry, along with those of heavily toasted oak – vanilla, hearth, caramel, and molasses. On the palate, it is rich, round, and unctuous, with bright cassis fruit contrasting with sweet oak notes. It is well-structured, with sweet fruit, then oak tannins on throughout the finish as well. Spit-roasted meats with garlic-rosemary steak fries would be just the ticket.

Reviewed February 20, 2008 by [Catherine Fallis](#).

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### THE WINE

**Winery:** [Mill Creek Vineyards and Winery](#)

**Vineyard:** Kreck Family Vineyards

**Vintage:** 2001

**Wine:** Cabernet Sauvignon

**Appellation:** [Sonoma County](#)

**Grape:** [Cabernet Sauvignon](#)

**Price:** \$24.00

### THE REVIEWER



#### Catherine Fallis

Founder and President of Planet Grape LLC, a company committed to bringing the joy of wine, food, and good living into the lives of everyday people, Catherine is creator of the "grape goddess guides to good living," a series of books, television presentations, seminars, and e-learning programs. The fifth woman in the world to become a Master Sommelier, grape goddess Catherine Fallis is still very much down-to-earth.