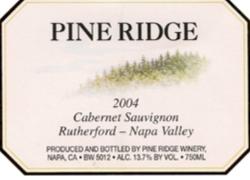


WINE RECOMMENDATION



an excellent vintage in the Napa Valley.

Pine Ridge Winery

2004 Cabernet Sauvignon (Rutherford)

This wine is the hallmark of Pine Ridge's portfolio, since it has been making Cabernet Sauvignon from Rutherford since its inception in 1978. And at the price, which is not inexpensive, and with its stellar quality, it is one of the "value" wines from

The grapes come from three of Pine Ridge's five Rutherford vineyards, which are all located in the western part of the AVA. The wine is young and a bit closed, as one might expect from a classic Rutherford red. There are some nuances of summer tomato aromas and, on the palate, the dark fruit is a bit brooding (attesting to its immaturity), with substantial tannins, earth and tar. Within a couple of years, this will be a great classic wine; and it will age for 20 years.

One of the reasons for its longevity is due to the relatively tame alcohol, which is listed at 13.7 percent. The wine was aged in new, 1- and 2-year-old French barrels for up to 16 months; and was not fined before bottling. There were a little more than 4,000 cases produced.

Reviewed February 21, 2008 by Alan Goldfarb.

THE WINE

Winery: Pine Ridge Winery

Vintage: 2004

Wine: Cabernet Sauvignon
Appellation: Rutherford

Grapes: Cabernet Sauvignon (84%), Merlot (12%), Petit Verdot (2%), Cabernet Franc (2%)

Price: \$48.00

THE REVIEWER



Alan Goldfarb

Alan Goldfarb has been writing about and reviewing wine for 17 years. His reviews have been published in the St. Helena Star, San Jose Mercury, San Francisco Examiner, Decanter, and Wine Enthusiast, among others. Not once has he used a point system, star

system, or an iconic symbol to quantify a wine. What counts in Mr. Goldfarb's criteria when judging a wine is: how it tastes in the glass; is it well-constructed; its food compatibility; and presence of redeeming regional attributes.