



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2003 Origin

Production: 844 cases

Composition: 45% Merlot, 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec

Vineyards: Beau Terre, Jaeger, Soda Canyon, Cornish, Hansen, Nelson

Appellations: Oak Knoll, Soda Canyon, Bennett Valley

Elevations: Valley Floor, 1200 ft, 900 ft respectively

Vine Age: 8 to 10 years

Cooperage: 14 months in 40 % new French oak

Alcohol: 15.44%, TA 0.62, pH 3.6

Hill Family Estate Origin is a Bordeaux blend representing the finest wine possible for the vintage, using the family run vineyards in Napa as the blending material. Most of the vineyards are located in the Oak Knoll region (78%), but 6% from Soda Canyon, and 14% from a ridge in Bennett Valley gave the wine added complexity.

Winemaker Alison Doran's Tasting notes:

2003 was a year where the skill of the grape grower determined the fate of the wine. In Oak Knoll, careful attention to crop size and water allowed the grapes long hang times for gaining flavor and complex tannins. The ripe aromas are of boysenberry and blueberry with the spicy oak playing backup. The wine is exuberant and lively, with a sweet tasty palate of multifaceted berries and dark fruit, again supported by a spicy oak structure and a bit of youthful astringency. Because of the Merlot, the wine is very balanced and works well with grilled lamb, pork loin, or barbequed chicken.