

2004 CABERNET FRANC

The progenitor of the noble Cabernet was the Cabernet Franc, in part. The result of a natural cross between Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon has been firmly entrenched as the most popular red grape in America for decades. • But what of Cabernet Franc? What's it all about? In this case, it's the nose that knows. Cabernet Franc is one of the most aromatically distinct wines and one of the most difficult to describe. What does the color orange taste like?...that's Cabernet Franc. • Unlike Cabernet or another Bordeaux brother, Merlot, which are circumscribed by round, dark fruits, Cabernet Franc is more non-fruit in aromatic nature; its fruit seems to take a secondary role to floral and wood notes. • 6: *The Answer to Everything* is a Cabernet Franc based wine made from fruit grown in the Livermore Valley (there is a touch of McGrail Vineyard Cabernet in the blend to add complexity and weight). It is a wonderfully angular wine, showing different facets that predominate at various times from the entry to the finish. • In the nose, this wine shows manifold aromas such as licorice, lavender perfume, and firewood notes over olallieberry, red cherry, and blackberry essences. In the mouth, the non-fruit/fruit matrices are even more obvious: the interplay of dark aromatics like coffee, fire-charred wood, cocoa, and sandalwood wrap the subtle fruit notes early then give way as the fruits' bright acids come to the fore. • Structurally, this wine is of medium weight with firm tannins. Holding it together and giving it its encompassing shape is the wonderful acid that creates a wine that bears some resemblance to Bordeaux. This wine will be at its peak in the next two to five years and should drink beautifully a few years past that. This wine marks our first foray into Cabernet Franc, but we will be using this wonderful grape from our new estate vineyard in wine from the 2005 vintage forward. • 6: *The Answer to Everything* was made exclusively for members of the Collector's Circle and is the fourth and final release for 2006.

The Wine

Blend	78% Cabernet Franc
	.22% Cabernet Sauvignon
Alcohol	14.4%
pH	3.74
TA	.60
Cases Produced	220

