



# Darius II

## 1999

### Napa Valley

Release Date	Fall 2002
Vineyard Location	Darioush Winery Estate Vineyard Mt Veeder Appellation
The 1999 Growing Season	A cool winter with above average rainfall led to a late bud break, a warm summer with cool nights and a late harvest. A beautiful growing year, with long grape hang time, which resulted in varietal characters of full maturity and development.
Varietal Composition	78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc
Brix @ Harvest Average	24.5°
Alcohol	13.9%
Cooperage	100% French Oak - Chateau Ferre; Alliers, Troncais – Medium Toast
Vinification	Small lots, hand-sorted, destemmed with 30%-40% whole berry. Cold soaked for 4 days. Pumped over through primary fermentation until completion. 30 days post alcoholic fermentation maceration. Pressed wine fraction kept separate. Pumped into barrels after 48 hours of settling and inoculation for malolactic fermentation. Barrel to barrel racking twice the first year - 3 times in second year. Bottled without fining or filtration.
Winemaker's Comments	A special wine representing the very best of the Darioush Winery Estate. Culled from the top 1% lots from the Darioush Estate, the 1999 Darius II represents the crown jewel of the spectacular 1999 vintage. This inaugural release of Darius II offers captivating earthy aromatics and flavors of sweet cassis, licorice and cherry-mocha. A distinctive and polished cuvee, the 1999 Darius II Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is approachable now, yet the balance and complex graceful finish suggests at least a decade of longevity. <b>840 bottles produced.</b>