



Darius II

2001

Napa Valley

Release Date Fall 2004

Vineyard Location Darioush Winery Estate Vineyard
Mt Veeder Appellation

The 2001 Growing Season A long cool winter with above average rainfall resulted in late bud break. The steady summer sunshine and cool foggy nights encouraged extended hang time allowing for full fruit maturity and development of varietal characters.

Varietal Composition 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot, 1.5% Cabernet Franc,
1.5% Petit Verdot

Brix @ Harvest Average 25°

Alcohol 14.5%

Cooperage 100% French Oak – Chateau Traditionnel
36-month Air-dried
Alliers & Troncais Forests
Medium Toast

Vinification Small lots, hand-sorted, destemmed with 30%-40% whole berry. Cold soaked for four 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 - three times in second year. Bottled without fining or filtration.

Winemaker's Comments Darius II is selected from exceptional hand-picked lots and bottled only in the very best vintages. The 2001 vintage is culled from the top 1% lots of the Darioush Estate and is an exquisite, elegant wine – known as our crown jewel.

Beautiful, focused and balanced, it fills the palate with luscious sweet black fruit that cascades into a symphony of violet, plum, blackberry and spice. Darius II is a supple and seamless wine with softly integrated tannins, adding a beautiful measure of elegance and finesse. It is supported with complex, full-bodied flavors of bright cassis, dark chocolate and cherry-mocha. A velvety mouthfeel with a long, caressing finish. Best through 2012.

192 cases produced.