



Darius II

2002

Napa Valley

Release Date October 2005

Vineyard Location Darioush Winery Estate Vineyard
Mt. Veeder Estate Appellation

The 2002 Growing Season A long cool winter with 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 80% Cabernet Sauvignon
20% Merlot

Brix @ Harvest Average 25.2°

Alcohol 14.5%

Cooperage 100% French Oak – Chateau Traditionnel
36-month Air-dried
Alliers & Tronçais 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 2002 vintage is culled from the top 1% lots of the Darioush Estate and is an exquisite, elegant wine – known as our crown jewel.
Beautifully focused and balanced with aromas of violets, plums and dried rose petals. The wine fills the palate with luscious, sweet black fruits, followed by notes of mocha and exotic spices. Plush tannins are seamlessly integrated to add a silky, regal quality to a long, velvety finish.
A cellar-worthy treasure until 2015.
255 cases produced.