



Appellation: Alexander Valley

Vineyard Designate: Reichel Vineyard

Cases Produced: 400

This vineyard designate may sound remarkably familiar, yet somehow different to many of you. That is because Byington has been producing Cabernet Sauvignon from Smith-Reichel since the winery's inception, but we have recently seen a change in the vineyard name. The location is the same, stunning plot of land, but the Smith half of the Smith-Reichel vineyard team has decided to pursue another venture and parted ways with Mr. Reichel.

The Reichel vineyard is located 2000 feet above Sonoma Valley in Geyserville. With a natural spring running out of the ground, rich volcanic soils, and tons of sunshine, it would be hard not to make a great wine out of these grapes.

We processed this vintage gently—a chilly three week fermentation for slow extraction of both color and flavor, only one racking, twenty months of barrel age, and no filtering prior bottling. The result is a supple wine with hints of cedar, baking spices, and a touch of blackberry, yet it retains a dense tannic backbone. I would certainly think about letting the Reichel Cab breathe for a bit, or running it through your Vinturi if you are not patient enough to wait. If patience is a virtue you possess leave a touch in the bottle overnight and then try it the next day. You will see that the Reichel Cabernet certainly possesses the ability to age gracefully.