

FRANCIS
COPPOLA
 DIAMOND COLLECTION

2005 BLACK LABEL CLARET

Francis Coppola Diamond Collection Black Label Claret, as its British-derived name implies, is Cabernet Sauvignon-based and made in the same style as Bordeaux's finest wines. A blend of the classic Bordeaux varietals—Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, Merlot, Malbec, and Cabernet Franc—our 2005 Claret is supple and rich with smooth tannins, ripe berry flavors, and seductive aromas. Tradition is a great guide for pairing it with food: savor it alongside grilled lamb chops with a mustard-herb rub or beef tenderloin with a pan sauce made with red wine.

Every Francis Coppola Diamond Collection wine is made with grapes grown in premium California appellations. We painstakingly match the varietals with the vineyard and we work with farmers who share our growing philosophy. Our winemaking team spends considerable time in each vineyard assessing the fruit's progress through the growing season, especially towards harvest when the grapes are reaching optimum ripeness. This combined with precise winemaking techniques ensures that each wine has true varietal character.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The fruit for our Claret is grown in distinctive regions throughout California. We harvest grapes primarily from Napa and Sonoma, as well as warmer El Dorado. This combination of climates results in a more complex wine with great balance.

The 2005 vintage offered a long cool growing season with moderate temperatures. Yielding the largest crop in California history, the 2005 vintage quality was outstanding.

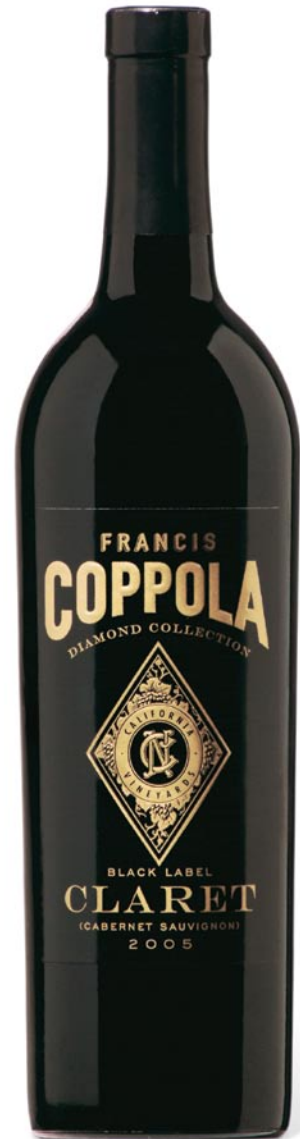
Cabernet Sauvignon is one of the last grapes we pick each year to make sure the grapes reach optimum ripeness. We hand pick it to so that only the best is selected. The grapes are then crushed and cold soaked to extract maximum flavor and color prior to fermentation. Following fermentation our Claret is aged in French oak barrels, bottled, and barrel-aged in our Sonoma County winery.

TASTING PROFILE

Appearance Dark, rich mahogany
Aromas Blackberry and plum mingle with roasted espresso beans
Flavors Ripe berries with hints of vanilla and subtle white pepper wrapped in supple tannins



Corey Beck, Winemaker



<i>Appellation</i>	Napa, Sonoma, El Dorado, Paso Robles
<i>Blend</i>	77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot, 8% Merlot, 3% Malbec, 1% Cabernet Franc
<i>Alcohol</i>	13.5%
<i>Total Acid</i>	.57
<i>pH</i>	3.67
<i>Barrel Regimen</i>	12–14 months in French oak
<i>Price</i>	\$19.00

