



## The Paloma Story

Founded by Jim and Barbara Richards and carried forward by their son Sheldon, Paloma Vineyard remains a true family operation. Today, Sheldon crafts the wines while his son Caston—the third generation at Paloma—serves as general manager and continues to learn the winemaking craft.

Our approach is hands-on and intentional: estate fruit is picked in small lots, fermented with daily hand punch-downs, and aged in a thoughtful balance of one third new and two thirds neutral French oak. The result is wines known for their smooth, velvety texture and layered complexity, vintage after vintage.

Paloma's 2,000-foot Spring Mountain estate defines its wines. Rocky volcanic soils, cool mountain breezes, and gentler temperatures than the valley floor—cooler days and warmer evenings—yield concentrated berries with vibrant aromatics, natural structure, and age-worthy elegance that clearly express a sense of place.

In 2003, Paloma Vineyard's 2001 Merlot was named ***Wine of the Year*** by Wine Spectator, chosen from more than 15,000 wines worldwide. Since then, Paloma Merlot has also appeared twice more in the Wine Spectator Top 100—2004 for the 2002 vintage (#54) and 2009 for the 2006 vintage (#65)—and in 2012 our 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon earned the magazine's Special Selection.



## 2021 NV Cabernet Franc

The “2021” release of Cabernet Franc is a non-vintage composed of the 2018, 2019, and 2021 vintages. Dry cinnamon, subtle nutmeg, and cocoa waft up on the nose, followed by ripe strawberry seed. The wine has a rounded, plush, dark fruit flavor, textured by soft tannins and a long rich lingering finish. Pair with a rack of lamb or a roast to complement its rich finish and tannins.

|                  |                                       |                   |           |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| <b>AVA</b>       | Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley | <b>Vintage</b>    | NV        |
| <b>Blend</b>     | 75% CF/ 25% CS                        | <b>Alcohol</b>    | 14.8%     |
| <b>Cooperage</b> | 33% new French oak (Nadalié)          | <b>Production</b> | 196 cases |
| <b>Bottled</b>   | May 2023                              | <b>Released</b>   | Aug 2024  |

**Vintage Notes:** Overall, 2021 was a strong vintage. A cooler spring led to a hot summer and fall. Fruit ripened smoothly with decent hang time and looked excellent coming in at harvest.

**Aging Potential:** Paloma wines have historically shown the ability to age gracefully for 20 to 30 years, though the exact arc depends on each vintage. The 2021 Cabernet Franc is expected to peak between 10 and 15 years, showing its best balance of structure and aromatics in that window.

## Ratings & Reviews

Wine Spectator, *91 points*

”A rich version, though demure in terms of energy, this offers a mix of mulled plum and red currant fruit that moves along slowly, picking up savory, sage, menthol and wet earth accents along the way.”

Wine Advocate, *92 points*

“The smallest of the winery’s latest releases, at just 196 cases, it has some tomato-leaf and floral aromas, plus ground nutmeg-cinnamon and cherry notes on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied in the mouth, it’s supple and easy to drink, like Paloma’s other current releases, yet promises to have at least a decade of drinkability ahead of it.”