

Lail Vineyards



2001 J. DANIEL CUVEE, NAPA VALLEY

THE PEOPLE

Lail Vineyards traces its Napa Valley roots back five generations to the founding of Inglenook in 1879 by Gustav Niebaum, great-grand uncle of Robin Daniel Lail. Passed down to third generation owner John Daniel, Jr., Inglenook thrived under his direction from 1933 to 1964 as he played a major role in the development of the Napa Valley appellation.

The winery's flagship wine, "J. Daniel Cuvee", is named in his honor.

THE WINE

Our proprietary blend has classically been made from Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. In 2001 higher than normal temperatures in July and early August stressed the Merlot vines too early— however, the Cabernet ripened to maturity under great weather conditions. This resulted in our cuvee being made up solely of small lots of Cabernet Sauvignon. Yields were down by 25% averaging 2.5 tons per acre. Just 1,000 cases were produced. Each year we strive to produce wines of escalating brilliance and delight. The attention to minute details begins in the vineyards and carries to nuances and subtleties in the winemaking phase. We believe the 2001 J. Daniel Cuvee evidences the continuing journey to the pinnacle of excellence.

The wine has been described as follows:

"The finest effort yet produced...complex notes cascade from the glass of this opaque, ruby/purple colored wine. Structure, medium bodied, moderately tannic and oh so pure and layered." (93 points)

—Robert M. Parker, Jr., *The Wine Advocate*

PROPRIETORS: The Lail Family

THE WINE: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

BARRELS: Aged 20 months in French oak barrels, 70% new barrels

WINEMAKER: Philippe Melka

PRODUCTION: 1,000 cases

VINEYARD: Howell Mountain and Oakville

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