



## The Best of Northern California — 2003, 2002, 2001

"The wines reviewed in the following pages represent the pinnacle of wine quality in California. In fact, many of these wines are among the finest made in the world. Their viticulture and winemaking are as meticulous as any top estate in France, Italy, Spain, or Germany. Moreover, the quality of California fruit is often superior, although the terroirs, soil bases, and micro-climates are vastly different.

The following wineries represent only a small percentage of Northern California producers, but I believe they are the North Coast's reference points in 2005. A handful of wineries from south of San Francisco have been included.

Juslyn's property was purchased in 1997 by British expatriates, Cardyn and Perry Butler, who now have 42 acres planted on Spring Mountain. The Estate fruit is supplemented with fruit purchased from the vineyards of well-known viticulturist Andy Beckstoffer. They have secured fruit from such prime Napa Valley parcels as To-Kalon, George III, and Dr. Crane. These are elegant as well as authoritatively flavored efforts from a winery that is clearly on the upswing. Readers take note!"

Robert Parker, February, 2005

### 2001 Juslyn Estate Cabernet Sauvignon: 92 Points

The 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon Spring Mountain Estate offers an attractive but restrained bouquet of crème de cassis, licorice, crushed rocks, subtle oak, and background cherry scents. A superb, elegant example of what can be achieved in California, it possesses a Bordeaux-like personality superimposed upon the wonderful ripeness and purity of Napa Valley mountainside fruit. This beautifully made, structured Cabernet will benefit from 2-4 more years of bottle age. Anticipated maturity: 2007-2020.

### 2001 Juslyn Cabernet Sauvignon Vineyard Select: 91 Points

The 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon Vineyard Select is superior from bottle than it was from cask. A wine of balance and impeccable purity, it represents a California version of a fictional blend of a top-notch Pauillac and St.-Julien. A deep ruby/purple color is accompanied by aromas of black currants, earth, tobacco leaf, licorice, and plums, a sweet attack, a pure mid-section, and a medium to full-bodied, persistent finish displaying faultless harmony. It will drink well for 15 years.

### 2001 Juslyn Napa Blend: 90 Points

The 2001 Proprietary Red (which will be called Perry's Blend beginning in 2002) comes from the Dr. Crane, To-Kalon, and George III vineyards. A blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, and 3% Cabernet Franc, it is performing better from bottle than it did from barrel. Its dark ruby/purple color is followed by a fragrant nose of blueberries, black currants, vanilla, and crushed rocks. Medium to full-bodied and elegant, with attractive layers of fruit, this beauty can be drunk young or cellared for 10-12 years.