



1986 Dominus

The 1986 Dominus Estate is the fourth vintage produced by the John Daniel Society, and, as always, the grapes for this wine were grown solely at Napanook Vineyard in Yountville, California. This vintage marks the first of the "second series" of Dominus Estate -- the 1986, 1987, and 1988 vintages use Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc in the blend, which introduces a floral, herbal character and added complexity.

The varietal composition of the 1986 Dominus Estate is 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc and 8% Merlot. The 1986 growing season was marked by very high winter rainfall and an unusually cool summer, which made the timing of harvest crucial to ensure full maturity.

The 1986 Dominus Estate has a deep ruby color and a rich nose reminiscent of ripe cherries, with elegance, finesse and excellent balance. Christian Moueix recommends decanting this wine before serving to allow it to develop its full potential.

The label artist for the 1986 vintage is the well-known American artist Jim Dine.

Vintage Summary:

Seasonal rainfall was 53.93 inches vs. 35.68 inches normal. We had heavy rainfall and flooding in February. Summer was very cool with only three days over 100 degrees (two of these were in June), and only nine days over 95 degrees.

BEGINNING DATE OF HARVEST: September 8

FINAL DATE OF HARVEST: October 6

PERCENTAGE OF NEW BARRELS: 20%

TIME IN BARREL: 18 months

BOTTLING DATE: January 1989

9-LITER CASES PRODUCED: 6200

RELEASE DATE: November 1990