

## DARIÕUSH

## 2002 SIGNATURE SHIRAZ NAPA VALLEY

Tasting Notes

Opulent and exotic, the 2002 Darioush Signature Shiraz offers aromas and flavors of blackberry, pomegranate, espresso and a spice-box of white pepper, clove and smoky sandalwood-incense. True to the potential of the 2002 vintage, the texture is powerful and mouth-filling with fine-grained, silky tannins that promise long life.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2002 harvest began early with warm harvest days, cool evenings and foggy mornings that yielded fruit of exceptional quality. The slow maturity along with lower yields and the long, even growing season allowed the fruit to develop optimal maturity and complexity while maintaining balance.

VINIFICATION

All lots were hand-harvested, hand-sorted and destemmed with 30% whole berry retention after slight maceration. Cold soaked for 72 hours in open and closed top fermentors. The wine was pressed at dryness with the press fraction kept separate and racked to barrels after 48 hours of settling. Each lot received barrel to barrel racking twice through aging. The vintage was bottled with minimal handling.

FOOD AFFINITIES

A marvelous companion to aged beef tenderloin, hearty stews, Middle-Easten spiced lamb or any savory game dish.

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**APPELLATION** Darioush Estate Vineyards in Napa Valley and Oak Knoll

VINTAGE 2002

Composition 100% Shiraz

COOPERAGE Aged in new French oak, 3-year seasoned Château barrels coopered in

Bordeaux from the forests of Tronçais and Allier

WINEMAKER Steve Devitt

Release Price \$64.00