Lail Vineyards



PROPRIETORS: The Lail Family THE WINE: 70% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Merlot BARRELS: Aged 20 months in French oak barrels, 50% new barrels WINEMAKER: Philippe Melka PRODUCTION: 1400 cases VINEYARD: Howell Mountain, Oakville, and St. Helena ESTABLISHED: May 1995

2000 J. DANIEL CUVEE, NAPA VALLEY

THE PEOPLE

Lail Vineyards traces its Napa Valley origins back five generations to the founding of Inglenook by our great-grand uncle Gustav Niebaum in 1879. Continuing the family's quest for excellence, we aspire to produce some of the finest wines in the world.

THE WINE

The 2000 is a pretty, elegant refined, graceful wine. The growing season was superb with a cool spring and summer punctuated by some heat spikes in August and early September. In addition to our own vines in Yountville at Totem, and on Howell Mountain at Mole Hill, we harvested from our star grower, Vine Hill Ranch in Oakville. The layering of flavors, soft tannins, and acid is excellent with the black and red fruit, chocolate and spice flavors lending additional delight from the bouquet to the lingering finish.

Drinkable now, the wine should age well for twelve to fifteen years. The 2000 Lail Vineyards J. Daniel Cuvee is a vintage you won't want to miss. Robert Parker gave the wine 90 points and said it was "One of the top efforts of the vintage".