

**Grgich Hills Cellar****2004 Cabernet Sauvignon, Estate
(Napa Valley)**

Most of the fruit for this wine comes from Grgich's dry-farmed Yountville vineyard, which went biodynamic the year before. The remainder of the fruit was sourced from the estate's organic parcels in Rutherford and Calistoga.

This is a classic Bordeaux-blended wine, apparently made with little intervention. The red fruit, which has some sweetness and some dried qualities, is in check, in that it's perfectly ripe

without being over-blown. There is a touch of mint and dried herbs in the nose. The wine is nearly perfectly balanced with beautiful acidity, and a bit of astringency on a long finish. Hold onto it for a year to allow it to settle down and then drink it over the next dozen years.

The alcohol, listed at 14.7 percent, is not a factor here. The wine spent 21 months in French oak, 60 percent of which was new. There were about 14,000 cases produced.

Reviewed February 21, 2008 by [Alan Goldfarb](#).

THE WINE

Winery: [Grgich Hills Cellar](#)

Vineyard: Estate

Vintage: 2004

Wine: Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation: [Napa Valley](#)

Grapes: [Cabernet Sauvignon](#) (89%), [Petit Verdot](#) (5%), [Merlot](#) (3%), [Cabernet Franc](#) (3%)

Price: \$60.00

THE REVIEWER**Alan Goldfarb**

Alan Goldfarb has been writing about and reviewing wine for 17 years. His reviews have been published in the *St. Helena Star*, *San Jose Mercury*, *San Francisco Examiner*, *Decanter*, and *Wine Enthusiast*, among others. Not once has he used a point system, star

system, or an iconic symbol to quantify a wine. What counts in Mr. Goldfarb's criteria when judging a wine is: how it tastes in the glass; is it well-constructed; its food compatibility; and presence of redeeming regional attributes.