



*M*ountain  
vineyards,  
classical  
winemaking,  
limited  
production”

**LES PAVOTS VINEYARD**

*Peter Michael Estate  
High above Knights Valley  
Eastern Sonoma County*

Planted: 1989

Cabernet Sauvignon 18 acres

Cabernet Franc 2 acres

Merlot 3 acres

Elevation: 1,500 – 1,800 feet

Soil: Rocky, volcanic-origin,  
Rhyolite

Exposure: southerly



PETER MICHAEL  
WINERY

**1997**  
**LES PAVOTS**

*Estate*  
*Proprietary*  
*Red Wine*



**WINEMAKER**  
**NOTES**

The distinctive aromas and flavors of our proprietary blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot exhibits its hillside origin on the slopes of Mt. St. Helena in Knights Valley. Rocky, rhyolitic soils created through volcanic activity millennia ago contribute a mineral richness and add to the wine's complexity. Spanning 23 acres, Les Pavots ascends to an elevation of nearly 1600 feet. Merlot and Cabernet Franc grow on the cool upper slopes and Cabernet Sauvignon grows just below.

Grapes were handpicked in late October and then cold soaked in a tank for almost four days before fermentation. Traditional Bordeaux vinification fermentation contribute to the intense color extraction and soft, round tannins. Our 1997 Les Pavots was aged in small French oak barrels for 20 months and bottled without fining nor filtration. After being bottled in June 1999 this wine was aged for 10 months prior to release.

**TASTING**  
**NOTES**

Aromas of cassis, blueberry, lavender and coffee interspersed with oak nuances of cedar and tobacco. Rich, ripe fruit impressions on the palate accentuated by silky, yet assertive tannins. The 1997 possesses a unique balance, full body, concentrated extract and a fine finish. Les Pavots is a fusion of traditional French and neoclassical Californian winemaking techniques. The wine is ready for near term enjoyment and has the richness, extract and structure for five to seven more years of aging.

**WINE**  
**INFORMATION**

Harvested: September 22 - September 26, 1997  
79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Cabernet Franc, 12% Merlot  
Aged in 50% new Nevers oak barrels from Tonnellerie Taransaud  
Bottled June 14 - June 16, 1999  
Alcohol: 14.5%, TA 5.6 g/L, pH 3.6  
Production: 4351 cases 750ml bottles, 330 1.5L, and  
60 3.0L bottles  
Release date: March 1, 2000