

CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
ALEXANDER VALLEY

*Vintage: 2002*

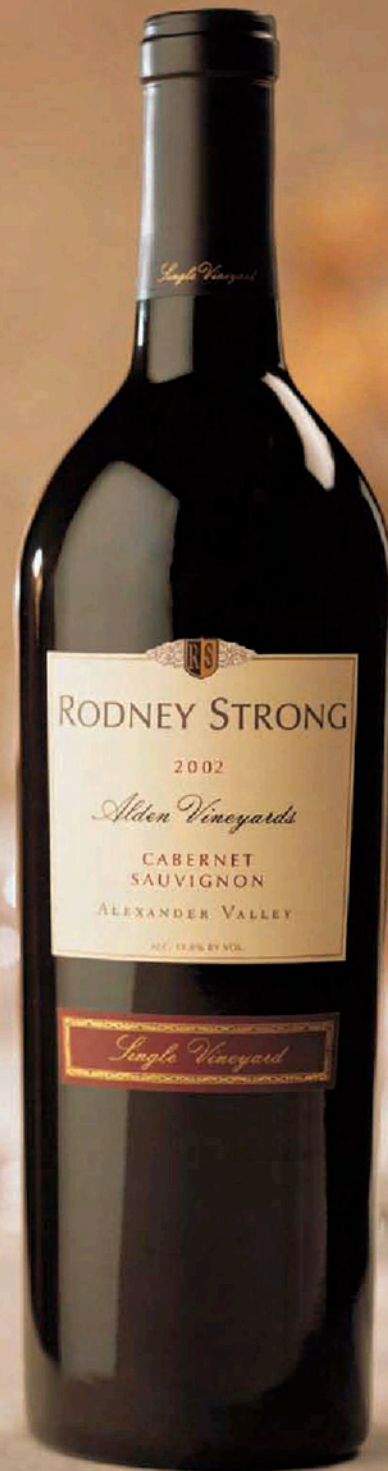
RODNEY STRONG

*Alden Vineyards*

“Dark berry  
flavors with accents  
of chocolate and bold,  
spicy oak... this is  
a powerful wine...  
classic mountain  
fruit structure!”

RICK SAYRE, WINEMAKER

*Rick Sayre*



Place matters. *Try ours!*



Vintage: 2002

RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS  
2002 ALDEN VINEYARDS CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
ALEXANDER VALLEY SINGLE VINEYARD

Winemaker:	Rick Sayre
Blend:	93% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc
Appellation:	Alexander Valley
Alcohol:	13.8%
Total Acidity:	0.66 gm/100ml
pH:	3.41
Residual Sugar:	0.04%
Cellar & Fermentation:	26 months in oak, 99% American, 1% French

### History

Perched at over 1,200 feet, the Alden Vineyard is a unique environment to grow wine. At this elevation, Spring comes later, cooler, and longer, naturally limiting berry growth size. The resulting smaller berries affect the overall skin to juice ratio in a manner that potentially makes for deep colors, powerful structure and tremendous concentration of fruit flavors. The challenge, however, is getting the grapes mature before the late season rains. Fortunately, elevation comes through a second time, yet in a different way. When Autumn's longer nights fills the valley with moist, cool air and fog, the higher Alden Vineyard stays above the inversion layer, remaining quite warm throughout the night, allowing for the ongoing enzymatic activity that ultimately matures the crop.

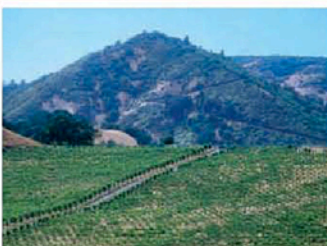
At 1200 feet elevation, spring comes later and autumn's longer nights remain quite warm, allowing for the ongoing enzymatic activity that ultimately matures the crop.

### In the Vineyards

Winemaker Rick Sayre's many years of winemaking experience in Sonoma County allowed him to quickly identify the potential of this site for greatness. After the first vintage in 1981, grapes from the Alden Vineyard have ended up in several of our programs, including our Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon. Finally, starting in 1996, Rick decided to honor the individual nature of this vineyard with a single vineyard bottling.

### Tasting Notes

Forward dark berry flavors with accents of chocolate and bold, spicy oak give this powerful wine a lot to offer for near-term enjoyment, but classic mountain fruit structure will provide the patient with plenty of reward over the next 3 to 7 years.



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