



Schramsberg Reserve

The Schramsberg Reserve is the winery's top Pinot Noir-based sparkling wine. This richly-flavored and full-bodied sparkler is made from only the finest base wine lots each year. Six years old upon release, the fruitful, creamy Reserve will age gracefully for ten or more years to come.

The Reserve is a Blanc de Noirs, a white wine gently crafted from red grapes. Hand picking, early harvesting, and light pressing are critical. Small amounts of select Chardonnay are included in the blend to lend some additional backbone and length to the palate. Extensive tasting is conducted over the winter months, with over 140 base wines representing 80 vineyards in five counties being taken into consideration. For the Reserve blend, 40% of the base wines are barrel fermented and aged on the lees for six months. Following fermentation, each bottle is aged in contact with its own yeast in Schramsberg's mountainside caves for a minimum of five years. The finishing dosage is the result of a comprehensive review of base wine options, many of which are barrel-aged for five-plus years.

The *Wine Spectator* awarded the 1997 vintage with 91 points, while the *Wine Enthusiast* gave the same vintage 95 points and the following review, "Most Americans don't think to age sparkling wine, but this is one for the long-term cellar. It's very good now and will eventually become great...Defines elegance and class." *The Fine Wine Review* gave the 1999 vintage of the Schramsberg Reserve 91/A.



1999 Reserve Tasting Notes

"Our 1999 Reserve combines fresh cranberry and zesty citrus in a bright aroma profile. Hints of roasted nuts and baked pastry dough, derived from bottle aging and barrel fermentation, complement the fruitful core. Anderson Valley Corby Vineyard Pinot Noir plays the starring role. Chardonnay lifts the zesty aromas and adds length and brightness to the palate. From its juicy nectarine and red delicious apple entry on the palate, to its sweet and sour, tangy finish, this flavorful sparkling wine is smooth and complete." – *Winemaker Hugh Davies*

Varietal Composition: 73% Pinot Noir
27% Chardonnay

Source: 55% Mendocino County
35% Napa County
7% Monterey County
2% Sonoma County
1% Marin County

Alcohol: 12.9%

TA: 9.9 g/L

pH: 2.96

RS: 1.25%