



## 2012 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### Winemaker Notes

The grapes for our 2012 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon were grown in some of Napa Valley's most prestigious appellations, including the mid-valley regions of Rutherford and Oakville. As in previous vintages, we pressed off a portion of the hand-picked grapes early to minimize skin contact and retain the bright fruit forward character of the fruit. The balance was left on the skins for an extended period of time to extract soft tannins which round out the mid-palate and create a lovely long finish. In this vintage we chose to blend in small portions of Malbec (3%) and Petite Verdot (2%) to add complexity, color and deep flavor to the finished wine.

This is a bold, rich Cabernet Sauvignon with a beautiful core of dark, brambly fruit -- black cherry, black raspberry and boysenberry -- framed by spicy notes of black pepper, anise, clove, cinnamon stick and fresh sage. Lush and full-bodied, the wine shows off sweet oak notes and a vanillin-tinged finish that is smooth and silky.

### All the Facts

Appellation:	Napa Valley
Varietal:	95% Cabernet Sauvignon; 3% Malbec; 2% Petite Verdot
Case Production:	6,876
Aging:	22 months, 71% French Oak, 29% American Oak
Suggested Retail Price:	\$40
Enjoyability:	Drink now through 2020 for optimum enjoyment.



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### On the Vine

2012 was a vintage for the record books in Napa Valley, with a near perfect growing season that featured warm days, cool evenings and no heat spikes or rain events to speak of. Across Napa Valley this ideal weather pattern resulted in normal bud break, flowering and fruit set, along with slow, even ripening. The fruit from the 2012 harvest was simply exceptional, with deep color, good acid and highly concentrated flavor.