

Cakebread Cellars



2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

Vineyards

The grapes for our 2013 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, a Bordeaux-style blend of 83% cabernet sauvignon, 9% merlot, 5% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot, came from top vineyards throughout the valley's finest cabernet sauvignon appellations, including 56% from our own estate vines. Securing fruit from multiple, diverse sites enables us to craft a rich, yet elegant cabernet marrying the lush black fruit and sturdy tannins typical of the valley's warmer northern districts with the bright fruit and acidity characteristic of its cooler southern climes. Each year, our winemaker, Julianne Laks, vinifies dozens of different lots of cabernet, assessing each one repeatedly in order to select only the very best lots for our final blend.

Vintage 2013

In 2013, a warm, dry spring initiated early budbreak, ensured trouble-free vine flowering and grape set, and led to a consistently mild summer fostering steady, even ripening and grapes with wonderful flavor concentration. Our hand-harvested red Bordeaux varieties were picked between September 23rd and October 15th with an optimum balance of sugar and acidity.

Winemaking

Each lot of our Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is separately harvested, fermented and barrel-aged before blending. Each is also cold-soaked for two days prior to fermentation to foster early color, flavor and tannin extraction from the skins. Tank size, yeast strain, fermentation temperature and barrel type are specifically tailored to the fruit character of each lot. In 2013, the component wines aged six months in French oak barrels, 60% new, before being blended in April, 2014. The final blend spent another 12 months in barrel before bottling in April, 2015.

Tasting Notes

Luxurious dark cherry, boysenberry, blackcurrant and black fig aromas, with scents of oak toast and dark chocolate, introduce layers of rich, deeply concentrated, yet elegant flavors of blackberry, boysenberry, fig, currant and fresh cherry. The wine's vibrant acidity, supple, seamlessly integrated tannins and impeccable balance contribute to a round, plush mouthfeel, leading to a long, savory finish marrying rich boysenberry fruit, French oak spice and a hint of dark chocolate. Remarkably delicious young, this classic Napa Valley cabernet sauvignon will develop even greater allure with another 7-10 years' bottle age.

Composition: 83% cabernet sauvignon, 9% merlot,
5% cabernet franc, 3% petit verdot

Vineyards: Napa Valley, 56% estate

Harvest dates: September 23rd – October 15th, 2013

Fermentation: 100% in stainless steel tanks

Barrel aging: 18 months in French oak barrels, 60% new

Alcohol: 14.7

Total acidity: 0.64 g/100ml

pH: 3.60

Bottled: April, 2015

Winemaker: Julianne Laks