



2013 VINE CLIFF OAKVILLE CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Wine Spectator 92
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VINEYARD

The grapes for our 2013 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon came from our renowned Vine Cliff Estate Vineyard in the Oakville AVA of the Napa Valley. The vineyard consists of 14 individual vineyard blocks ranging from steep hillside terraces to the flat rocky red soil of the “Oakville Bench” at 400 feet above the valley floor. Five Cabernet Sauvignon clones are planted on the estate, each with a unique aroma and flavor profile. The Oakville appellation combined with our unique farming practices and low yield produces grapes and wine with incredible flavor and concentration. The 2013 harvest on our estate is one of the best ever. Even ripening and extended hang-time provided fruit with perfect maturity and classic Cabernet aroma and flavor.

WINEMAKING

Gentle fruit handling, small lot fermentations, and attention to quality are the rule for producing great Cabernet at Vine Cliff. Our grapes are hand-picked at night or in the early morning to give us cold fruit for processing. Individual vineyard blocks are destemmed separately into small stainless steel fermentation tanks and barrels. Grapes are cold soaked before the must is warmed and the fermentation initiated. Small berries coupled with low juice to skin ratios gave us copious flavor and rich tannin concentration in 2013. Individual vine-yard blocks are fermented and aged separately. Careful winemaking, gentle techniques, and limited processing all contribute to wines that express the terroir of the Vine Cliff Estate. Our 2013 Oakville blend is 93% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc. This wine was aged in 65% new tight grain French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES

This classic Napa Cabernet is filled with aromas of cassis, plum, black cherry, and hints of violet and mint. Aging in the finest French Oak barrels and small lot fermentation contribute to an enticing bouquet of cedar, anise, vanilla, mocha and sage. This full-bodied, rich Cabernet has smooth polished tannin and flavors of berry and plum on the palate.

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