

SMITH-MADRONE

2013 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2013 marked the earliest harvest in 25 years and produced a perfect growing season with dry conditions and a long, sunny summer which produced a phenomenal Cabernet Sauvignon. The challenge of 2013 was to be patient and weigh the pursuit of ripeness versus the reality of increasingly high sugar levels. Assessing harvests is a process that extends from the actual picking, to fermentation, to barrel aging and then selection—separating the best lots from lesser ones. At Smith-Madrone we believe our 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon will be a superior successor to the already famous 2012 vintage.

The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon is 100% estate fruit grown at the top of Spring Mountain (1,800-foot elevation), west of St. Helena in the Napa Valley. The vines are planted on very steep slopes (up to 35%) in red “Aiken” soil which is derived from weathered volcanic materials and sedimentary rock. The underlying geology, the Franciscan mélange, is just 500 miles long and was created by the Continental Plate grinding off the top of the Pacific Plate as it sub-ducts under the Continental Plate.

Black cherry, oak and black pepper on the nose precede a layered, rich palate, where soft tannins are the backbone for flavors of forest floor, cloves, savory herbs and cassis. A long and complex finish persists with notes of loam and red fruits. These grapes grow on slopes of up to 30% at an elevation of almost 2,000 feet: this mountain pedigree insures deliciously integrated tannins and a long life span.

For forty-five years our wines have been sourced from the same vineyards, pruned, cultivated and harvested by hand in the same manner which creates artisanal wines which are distinctive and complex. Our goal is produce wines which bring pleasure to all the senses.

AGE OF VINES:	41 years
APPELLATION:	Napa Valley
SUB-APPELLATION:	Spring Mountain District
FARMING	Dry-farmed estate mountain vineyard
VARIETAL CONTENT:	Cabernet Sauvignon 82%, Cabernet franc 12%, Merlot 6%
TIME IN OAK	75% new French oak, 25% year-old French oak for 18 months
pH	3.56
TOTAL ACIDITY	.62 grams/100 ml
ALCOHOL BY VOLUME	14.2%
CASES PRODUCED:	1,388 cases
WINEMAKERS & WINEGROWERS:	Charles Smith, Sam Smith & Stuart Smith
WEBSITE:	www.smithmadrone.com

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