

SMITH·MADRONE

2013 Cook's Flat Reserve

This is a limited production wine of 194 cases created by the careful selection and blending of a small group of the best barrels the vintage had to offer. In 2013, this means the wine is 46% Cabernet Franc, 33% Cabernet Sauvignon and 21% Merlot, aged for 19 months in 100% new French oak from the forests of Tronçais, Nevers and Allier. Following barrel aging, the wine rested for two and a half years in the bottle before its release on November 13, 2018.

Cook's Flat Reserve represents our uncompromising pursuit of perfection in winemaking. Each bottle is numbered and tissue wrapped with a copy of the U.S. Land Office patent which was signed by President Chester A. Arthur, granting ownership of the land to George Cook. That original document hangs in the winery and is an important part of our history. We chose this name in tribute to George Cook, the first owner of the property and the person who originally planted the vines here in the 1880s.

The 2013 Cook's Flat Reserve is a text-book example of the wonderful complexities available in fine wine to those who are willing to slow down and savor the moment. Aromatically fascinating, this wine is a nearly inexhaustible cornucopia of alluring fragrances. It leads with a deep black/red core of fruit surrounded by grace notes of leather, tobacco, nutmeg, violets and cedar. There is even a hint, a mere suggestion, perhaps something like orange zest sprinkled on a dab of brown sugar. An aroma of this complexity is so haunting as to be an end in itself.

Happily, after such a glorious start the wine has terrific follow-through on the palate. The black/red fruit that forms the core of the aroma happily repeats itself as it wells up deliciously in the mid-palate with sumptuous portions of black currants and blackberries. A sleek and creamy texture overlays an under-current of light acidity and graceful tannins that promise a long and happy life for those inclined to wait. All in all, the wine is generous without being over-the-top, beautifully composed, harmonious, complete and lingering.

Appellation:	Napa Valley
Sub-Appellation:	Spring Mountain District
Farming:	Dry-farmed mountain estate
Varietal content:	46% Cabernet Franc, 33% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot
Time in oak:	19 months
Oak:	100% new French oak
pH:	3.62
Total acidity:	.63 g/100 ml
Alcohol:	14.3%
Harvest:	September 22 to September 29, 2013
Cases produced:	2,450 individually numbered bottles
Winemakers & Winegrowers:	Charles Smith, Sam Smith & Stuart Smith