

SMITH·MADRONE

2014 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

In spite of the drought and the Napa earthquake, the 2014 harvest produced an abundant crop and excellent expectations for the vintage. The 2013/2014 winter was one of the driest on record in California and rainfall totals on Spring Mountain were approximately half of normal. A long-term benefit of the drought is that berry sizes are typically smaller and have more concentrated flavors, which may explain the terrific quality of the 2014 harvest.

This wine opens with a concentrated nose of dark fruits, leading with notes of boysenberry and plum. The palate is remarkably seamless, an elegantly integrated mouthful with a velvety, silky texture which leaves you realizing how winemaking can 'distill' a grape into a powerful perfume, the essence of Cabernet Sauvignon. Old school and old world in its approach, this wine projects finesse, grace and balance, all supported by the backbone of a mountain vineyard pedigree. Superb now, with a finish which almost doesn't finish, this wine will certainly age wonderfully for at least twenty-five years.

The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon is made from 100% estate fruit grown at the top of Spring Mountain (1800-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, derived from weathered volcanic materials and sedimentary rock.

Our Spring Mountain pedigree insures deliciously integrated tannins and a long, life span. For more than four decades our wines have been sourced from the same vineyards, pruned, cultivated and harvested in the same manner, creating artisan wines which are distinctive and complex. Our goal is to produce wines which bring pleasure to all the senses.

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| <u>AGE OF VINES:</u> | <u>42 Years</u> |
| <u>APPELLATION:</u> | <u>Napa Valley</u> |
| <u>SUB-APPELLATION:</u> | <u>Spring Mountain District</u> |
| <u>FARMING:</u> | <u>Dry-farmed estate mountain vineyard</u> |
| <u>VARIETAL CONTENT:</u> | <u>85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Cabernet franc, 7% Merlot</u> |
| <u>TIME IN OAK:</u> | <u>70% new French oak, 30% one-year old French oak for 18 months</u> |
| <u>pH:</u> | <u>3.56</u> |
| <u>TOTAL ACIDITY:</u> | <u>.62 grams/100 ml</u> |
| <u>ALCOHOL BY VOLUME:</u> | <u>13.9%</u> |
| <u>CASES PRODUCED:</u> | <u>1,925 cases</u> |
| <u>WINEMAKERS & WINEGROWERS:</u> | <u>Charles Smith, Stuart Smith & Sam Smith</u> |

Smith-Madrone Winery & Vineyards
4022 Spring Mountain Road, St. Helena, CA 94574
(707) 963-2283 www.smithmadrone.com