



2012 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Napa Valley

THIS WINE BLENDS THE RICH COMPLEXITY of the *Tenma Vineyard* in Calistoga, the crisp vibrancy of the *Mitsuko's Vineyard* in Carneros, and the spice of the *Dunaweal Vineyard* to perfectly create the best representation of Napa Valley.

HARVEST NOTES

2012 began with a droughty, warm winter and early spring, accelerating budbreak by one week and resulting in an even and fertile bloom. Warm temperatures continued into the late spring and early summer without significant heat events, prolonged cool periods or measurable rainfall—essentially perfect weather for winegrape growing at the highest level. The combination of warmer days and cooler nights ensured full ripeness of the fruit both in terms of fruit flavor development and tannin maturity together with acidity retention, so crucial for fine wine balance. Fruit quality proved superb across all varieties.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Tenma Vineyard, in Jericho Canyon in northeastern Calistoga, produces Cabernet Sauvignon of deep color and intensity; in 2012, these wines provided the solid foundation for our blend. Graveyard Hill in the cool Carneros region of Napa Valley is a tiny portion of Mitsuko's Vineyard, where the deep gravelly soils warm up early in the spring, leading to optimum ripening, and giving us wines of elegance and finesse. Nearby Merlot blocks on similarly well-drained soils produced wines of intensity and volume which retain optimal levels of natural acidity. Dunaweal Vineyard has deep and fertile soil, allowing our Petit Verdot to thrive, providing inky color and exotic aromatic perfume for the blend. Individual lots of wine were racked at the completion of malolactic fermentation in the winter, following harvest, re-evaluated in summer of 2013 and racked as needed. The finished wine blend was put up to tank in early June of 2014 after a total *élevage* of 19 months.

TASTING NOTES

The 2012 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon has a dense ruby purple color with exotic dark fruit notes of ripe black cherries, plums and blackberries complimented by scents of violets, graphite, black licorice, wild sage and a touch of sweet cedar. This rich wine deftly balances fleshy mineral-tinged fruit, ripe tannins and a rich full mouthfeel with a prominent mid-palate lift and a lengthy refined finish.

TECHNICAL INFO

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

Cabernet Sauvignon (79%)
Merlot (11%)
Petit Verdot (7%)
Cabernet Franc (3%)

CLONE

Tenma Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon: Clones 7 and 337, Montelena massale selection; Mitsuko's Vineyard – Graveyard Hill Carneros Cabernet Sauvignon: Clone 7; Mitsuko's Vineyard Carneros Merlot: Pomerol massale selection; Dunaweal Vineyard Calistoga Petit Verdot: Clone 6; Mitsuko's Vineyard Carneros Cabernet Franc: Estate massale selection

VINEYARD

Tenma Vineyard Calistoga Cabernet Sauvignon (70%); Mitsuko's Vineyard, Graveyard Hill, Carneros Cabernet Sauvignon (9%); Mitsuko's Vineyard, Carneros Merlot (11%); Dunaweal Vineyard, Calistoga Petit Verdot (7%); Mitsuko's Vineyard, Carneros Cabernet Franc (3%)

SOIL

Tenma Vineyard: Bale Clay-Loam and Sandy Clay-Loam;
Dunaweal Vineyard: Bale Clay-Loam
Mitsuko's Vineyard: Haire Clay-Loam and Haire Gravelly Clay-Loam

HARVEST DATES

October 19–October 31

AGING

19 months in 45% new French oak

BOTTLING DATE

June 2014

ALCOHOL

14.8%