



Girard

NAPA VALLEY

CABERNET SAUVIGNON
2012

Background

For the past 40 years, Girard has been singularly dedicated to ensuring balance in our wines. This is achieved by meticulously focusing on making choices that respect the grapes and Napa Valley heritage at each step of the winemaking process. We work closely with our long-time growers in both mountain and valley vineyards to ensure vines are nurtured to develop balanced sugar and acidity in the grapes when it comes time to harvest. In our state-of-the-art winery, we employ innovative barrel technology to bring out the ripe fruit characteristics during the fermentation and aging process. Our dedication to quality throughout the winemaking process is evident in our consistently award-winning wines that offer richness, complexity and balance in each sip.

Girard sources its Cabernet grapes from a variety of respected sub-appellations throughout Napa Valley. We feel this diversity in sourcing helps develop layers of complexity that span the range of Cabernet's impact on the palate. Our diversity also extends to our barrels. We work with over 40 different makers of French Oak barrels. When choosing the Cabernet that will make it to the final blend for Girard we not only look at each lot individually, we also look at the individual barrels used for aging. This allows us more opportunity to develop layers of complexity from the oak aging as well.

Appellation

Napa Valley

Sourcing

St. Helena, Pope Valley, Carneros and Rutherford

Varietal Composition

91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petite Verdot, 4% Merlot

Winemaking

2012 was truly an exceptional vintage for Napa Valley. Grapes were picked at the peak of both ripeness and flavor development which allowed us the opportunity to build on a strong foundation of character during harvest. Proper fermentation helped lend to the complexity of the fruit and tannin structure of our Cabernet. After fermentation we chose to expose our Cabernets to an extended maceration period where the wine was left on the skins of the grapes beyond primary fermentation. This helped integrate tannins in the wine and developed into a unique mouthfeel that combines structure with elegance. The wine was bottled after 20 months in 100% French Oak (45% new).

Tasting Notes

Aromas of mocha, vanilla bean, toffee and espresso. On the palate there's dusty cocoa powder, blackberries and cassia. Bright acidity helps showcase the vivid fruits intermingling with dark fruit components. The Cabernet finishes with leather, toast and chocolate covered cherries.

Technical Data

pH 3.59
TA 0.645 g/100mL
RS 0.8 g/L
Alc. 14.5%

Wine Maker

Glenn Hugo