



Girard

NAPA VALLEY

ARTISTRY
2013

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's flagship wine, Artistry, showcases the best expression from Napa Valley in a blend of the five classic Bordeaux varietals. Grapes for Artistry come from several prominent areas throughout Napa Valley with Cabernet Sauvignon sourced from St. Helena, Oakville & Pope Valley. These regions offer dark fruit and well integrated tannin development. Merlot and Malbec are sourced from Yountville, Carneros and Rutherford which lend to the lush fruit components and weight. Cabernet Franc and Petite Verdot come from the more northern Pope Valley AVA that allows for longer hang time and more evolved fruit development. Our Petite Verdot vineyards tend to be our last fruit brought in, allowing for very complex character and tannin development.

Appellation

Napa Valley

Sourcing

St. Helena, Oakville, Pope Valley, Yountville, Rutherford

Varietal Composition

53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc, 8% Malbec & 7% Petit Verdot

Winemaking

Textbook conditions saw near-ideal spring bud break, steady flowering, even fruit set, and a lengthy stretch of warm days and cool and often foggy nights during the long summer months. Late and light rains held off until Napa Valley's treasured wine grapes found optimal ripeness, bringing exceptional quality to the crush pad and into the cellar. The abundance of perfectly ripe grapes--with a smooth balance of acids and sugars--provided a broad sweep of opportunities for winemakers to cull only the most select fruit. The vineyards of Napa Valley are intentionally farmed at lower yields bringing only the very best grape to harvest. Aged in 100% French Oak (35% New).

Tasting Notes

The nose showcases aromatics of vanilla and tobacco intertwined with black and red fruit notes. The palate coats with bright cherry on the front, vanilla and mocha followed by blackberry compote and finishing with leather and textured tannins. The structure of the acidity, tannin and fruit present a well-balanced wine that, with a little time to decant, becomes even more expressive.

Technical Data

pH 3.55
TA 0.66 g/100mL
RS 0.748 g/L
Alc. 14.9%

Wine Maker

Glenn Hugo



September, 2016

POINTS