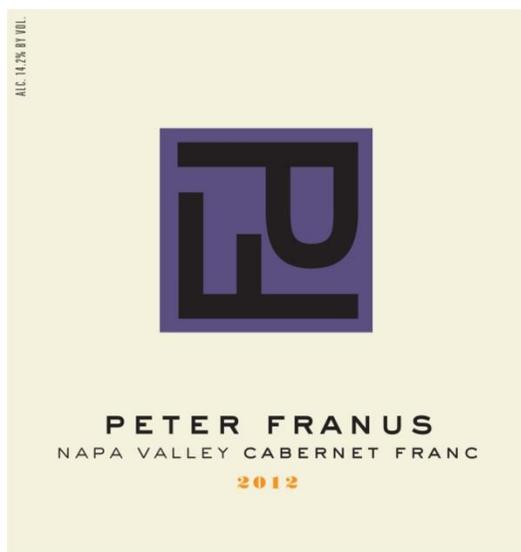


## 2012 PETER FRANUS NAPA VALLEY CABERNET FRANC



Vineyards:	Truchard Vineyard Stewart Vineyard Carneros
Composition:	94% Cabernet Franc 6% Merlot
Harvest Dates:	October 12 & 30, 2012
Fermentation:	12 days average, up to 82°
Oak aging:	17 months 100% French Oak 50% new
Bottling Date:	May 8, 2014
Production:	179 cases 750ml

TA 0.56 g/100 ml

pH 3.61

Alc. 14.2%

RS 0.22 g/L

CALIFORNIA RETAIL PRICE \$46

Cabernet Franc is a finicky grape. But after all my years of winemaking, I think it is precisely those challenging varieties that have the potential to produce some of the most exciting wines in the marketplace. There is a buzz these days about Cabernet Franc as more people tune into this variety that can display a spectrum of flavors and profiles.

I firmly believe that Cabernet Franc and Merlot need the coolest parts of Napa Valley to capture the aromatics and varietal characteristics that define these varieties. Northern Carneros is perfect, and even though the risks are high in vintages that are late-ripening, they are worth it.

Truchard Vineyards. Tony and Jo Ann Truchard are not only innovators and veterans of Napa Valley, they are some of the nicest in the business even in the throes of a hectic harvest. I happen to be one of those who believe those traits somehow ultimately express themselves in the grapes and wine.

Cabernet Franc is extensively planted in the Loire Valley in France as well as in the right bank vineyards of Bordeaux. Lighter and less tannic than Cabernet Sauvignon, it is more approachable in its youth, a virtue for sure in California. Its great attraction for me is its wild and complex nose of cedar, lavender, and herb. I am easily taken in by its exotic aromas.

Wonderful growing conditions in 2012 led to a bevy of beautiful wines. Medium ruby in color, our 2012 offers a beautiful mélange of perfumed aromas—cinnamon, rose petal, lavender, cherry and coffee notes. Flavors reflect the nose, supported by a medium weight structure with appropriate acidity and tannin. The wine offers restraint and elegance, hallmarks of our winemaking style..

Brown bag this with your friends. They may be surprised it is from California!