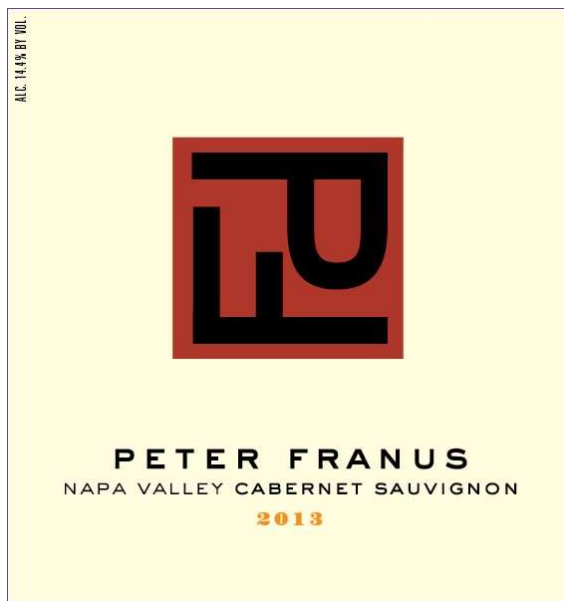


2013 PETER FRANUS NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



| | |
|----------------|---|
| Vineyards: | Taplin Road—St. Helena Howell Mountain Stewart—Carneros |
| Composition: | 98% Cabernet Sauvignon 2% Merlot |
| Harvest Dates: | Sept. 13, 20, & 24 Oct. 3 |
| Fermentation: | 7 days average, up to 82° |
| Oak aging: | 19 months 100% French Oak 60% new |
| Bottling Date: | May 7, 2015 |
| Production: | 1013 cases 750ml |

TA 0.60 g/100 ml

pH 3.80

Alc. 14.4%

RS 0.31 g/L

CALIFORNIA RETAIL PRICE \$48

I produced my first Cabernet Sauvignon in 1981 as winemaker for Mount Veeder Winery, which at the time was one of the cutting edge wineries elevating Cabernet production to a new level. Needless to say, Cabernet is now king in Napa Valley, due largely to the passionate innovators from decades past. In the years that followed, I had the luxury to observe and work with Cabernet from numerous regions. In 2011 I connected with two phenomenal vineyards—both certified organic—that I believed had amazing potential to create a wine in our “signature” style.

Howell Mountain needs little introduction. Located in the northeast corner of Napa Valley, the resulting red wines from the region are typically powerful, muscular, and intense. Although many choose to bottle 100% Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon on its own, I think it best serves as the backbone of a wine and needs to be finessed a bit. Let me introduce Taplin Road, southeast of St. Helena, just off the Silverado Trail.

Joseph Phelps and Heitz are legends in Napa Valley. They are on Taplin Road. Nestled between them is my eastern hillside vineyard—clone 341—offering grapes with wonderful charm, elegance, and volume, the perfect foil to Howell Mountain.

It is easy to make Cabernet Sauvignon that is powerful and impressive. Our goal and challenge is to create a wine that is palatable, harmonious, and pleasurable. We are pleased that these are the qualities for which we are now recognized.

After the marvelous 2012 vintage, we were rewarded again in 2013, with a nearly perfect growing season, and a long ripening period as well. I refer to it a “leisurely” harvest, not forced to pick for fear of rain or extreme heat. A relaxed harvest for me often translates into an outstanding vintage.

Our 2013 Cabernet greets you with its youthful dark ruby color. Its complex aromas suggest cassis, roasted coffee, vanilla, and subtle notes of dried herb—basil and thyme. Flavors of plum and wild berry are broad and expansive, reined in by appropriate acidity and structure. Tannins are ripe and seamless. This harmonious wine is poised for longevity and exemplifies what great vineyard sites are all about—balance happens long before the grapes even arrive at the winery.

Final note: Pure, lively, intriguing and delicious!

PETER FRANUS WINE COMPANY PO BOX 10575 NAPA, CA 94581 TEL 707.945.0542 WWW.FRANUSWINE.COM