

APPELLATION: RUTHERFORD, CA

BLEND: 87% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 8% CABERNET FRANC, 3% PETIT VERDOT, 2% MERLOT

VINEYARD: CHATEAU, COHN

BARREL REGIMEN: 18 MONTHS; 90% FRENCH OAK, 10% AMERICAN OAK; 50% NEW OAK, 50% USED OAK

ALCOHOL: 14.2%

RELEASED: MAY 2015



2013 INGLENOOK CABERNET SAUVIGNON

HISTORY

Previously this wine was known as CASK Cabernet Sauvignon. Inglenook will now refer to this wine as Inglenook Cabernet Sauvignon. This is a tribute to the historic world-renowned Inglenook 1941 vintage, produced by John Daniel, Jr. from vines brought to the Inglenook Estate from Bordeaux by Gustave Niebaum. Today, this estate-grown wine is blended with the best lots of Cabernet Sauvignon that remain after the highly selective blending of Rubicon.

VINTAGE

2013, a stellar vintage, with the lack of precipitation it created one of the driest growing seasons on record enabling vine optimization by the ideal conditions of the previous year. The growing season produced a large crop, requiring a thinning out of fruit on multiple occasions, but these efforts paid off. By late summer, it was apparent our Cabernet was going to be of very high quality. The resulting fruit exhibited tremendous concentration that was perfectly balanced and highly fragrant.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Over the last few years, we've refined our Cabernet Sauvignon program, using smaller boxes for picking, a new destemmer that is gentler on the fruit, and we apply greater scrutiny during the fermentation process by evaluating individual blocks of fruit daily to determine which will benefit from pump overs. Also, this vintage, we implemented by-the-hour pay for our pickers rather than by-the-ton, as an additional quality measure that encourages our vineyard staff to pick more slowly, be gentler with the fruit, and focus on selecting higher quality clusters as a means of pre-sorting. These methods have greatly enhanced the quality of our Cabernet Sauvignon. Unlike Rubicon, which is aged exclusively in French oak, we age our Inglenook Cabernet in a combination of French and American oak for 18 months, this year using a large percentage of new oak to support the tannin structure.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2013 Inglenook Cabernet Sauvignon is a voluminous wine with upfront sweetness and fine, powdery tannins that develop intensity. Highly aromatic and immediately expressive, the palate reflects the nose with fragrant nuances of red and black fruits that include raspberries, cherries, blueberries, plums and blackberries, all enlivened by exotic spices, notes of tobacco, and a touch of dark chocolate. This is a big wine, one that demonstrates great texture, a freshness brought about by balanced natural acidity, and a long, rapturous finish. It will continue to evolve over the next 10-20 years.

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