



2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

The Mondavi family has always championed Cabernet Sauvignon as Napa Valley's premier grape. Emblem represents the continuation of this once visionary commitment and the passing of the torch to the next generation of the Michael Mondavi Family. Siblings Rob Mondavi, Jr. and Dina Mondavi collaborate to produce under the Emblem label wines that express the unparalleled quality of the land's fruit and their family's rich winemaking tradition.

VINEYARDS

The grapes for Emblem Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon come from Napa Valley's finest winegrowing regions to create a blend that truly represents the entirety of Napa Valley. Fruit from hillside vineyards at the family's Oso Vineyard estate in northeast Napa were blended with valley floor fruit from Oakville, Rutherford, and Wooden Valley. By blending fruit from Napa's volcanic hillside soils and the deeper alluvial soils of the valley floor, they craft a wine that boasts a beautifully rounded mouthfeel and layers of rich, complex flavors.

VINTAGE NOTES

A classic Napa Valley growing season and harvest provided an abundance of quality grapes from which winemakers had to choose this year. From spring bud break, through flowering, fruit set, and ripening, conditions were ideal. A consistent stretch of warm summer weather, without large heat spikes and with plenty of cool and foggy nights, ripened grapes to perfection before late rains appeared at the end of October. The 2012 harvest was a gift from mother nature allowing us to pick the fruit at the optimum time, providing us juice that shows the ripe flavors and high quality that Napa has to offer.

WINEMAKING

After the grapes were gently hand-harvested, de-stemmed and crushed, the juice fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks, with an extended post-fermentation maceration that beautifully married flavors and tannins, giving our Emblem Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon its lovely, seamless texture. Malolactic fermentation in barrel, combined with 15 months aging in French oak (66% new), further concentrated the wine's rich cassis and blackberry cobbler flavors, adding subtle nuances of torched crème brûlée. Through numerous barrel tastings and blending trials, a final blend that includes Syrah, Petite Sirah, Zinfandel, and Petit Verdot helps make this wine accessible today for immediate drinking while still maintaining the Cabernet structure for extended cellaring.

*78% Cabernet Sauvignon – 7% Syrah – 7% Petite Sirah – 4% Zinfandel – 4% Petit Verdot
5.54 g/L total acidity; 3.79 pH; 14.4% alc. by vol.*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rob Mondavi".

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dina Mondavi".