

Animo

2014 CABERNET SAUVIGNON | NAPA VALLEY

Grape Variety

94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Merlot, and 3% Cabernet Franc

Atlas Peak Vineyard

The 15-acre vineyard with its stony, volcanic soil, sits atop Atlas Peak between 1,270-1,350 feet at the edge of a steep canyon overlooking the town of Oakville. The property was purchased and planted by the Michael Mondavi Family in 1999 and this vineyard is predominantly comprised of Cabernet Sauvignon planted on Clone four rootstock, which produces structured fruit with ample tannins and acid to balance the concentrated dark fruit flavors.

Vintage Notes

The vintage marks another wonderful growing season for the Napa Valley despite many challenges. The 2014 winter was one of the driest on record in California and rainfall totals in the Napa Valley were half of normal. However, the timing could not have been better – heavy rains in late February and early March gave a much-needed drink of water to the vines as they were emerging from dormancy and about to begin bud break – which many winemakers believe contributed to the overall quality of this year’s harvest. The Spring was warm and the vines earmarked for high-quality wine production benefited as the berry sizes were typically smaller and contained more concentrated flavors.

Winemaking

After the grapes were hand-harvested, de-stemmed, and crushed, the must was cold-soaked for four days prior to the onset of fermentation in small wood French tanks. Aeration and cap management is handled through a series of punch-downs and pump-overs for color and tannin extraction. Upon completion of fermentation, the wines macerate on the skins for 18-21 days before being gently pressed off. The wine was barrel aged in 50% new French oak for 21 months before bottling, with the balance of the blend aged in neutral French oak barrels.

Tasting Notes

Our vineyard’s soils and altitude offer a complexity of layered dark fruit and bountiful aromatics – tart boysenberry, fine cassis, warm winter spice, and cigar box perfume the glass. The layered body of the wine mirrors the aromatics and provides a pleasant freshness of acidity allowing for the richness of the Cabernet to provide balance, complexity, and depth.

6 g/l total acidity; 3.74 pH:

14.9% alc. by vol.

SRP: \$85.00

Production: 938 cases



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