



2012 ELEMENT 28

Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Element 28 is named by the owner of the vineyard, Erik Nickel, who ingeniously came up with the name Element 28 – “nickel” on the periodic table. Located high in the hills across from Lake Hennessey, this vineyard has a western exposure and is comprised of shallow, gravelly loam soils that produce small vines with loose clusters and small berries. Three different clones offer a variety of concentrated fruit flavors that produce a wine reminiscent of a hillside vineyard.

HARVEST NOTES

An ideal 2012 growing season with warm days and cool, foggy nights offered the perfect conditions for fruit and tannin maturity. There were no heat spikes this year, so flavor development was at its peak. These small vines needed little alteration because they were naturally balanced with nicely exposed, loose clusters. We had a long season with cooler nights in the hills, giving the fruit the extra hang time needed to ripen tannins, and we harvested it toward the end of October.

SENSORY EVALUATION

This first release of the Element 28 Cabernet Sauvignon opens with a perfume of blueberries and boysenberries mixed with an underlying aroma of cedar and spice. Flavors of chocolate-covered berries fill the palate with an underlying minerality. This wine is packed with flavor, juicy and succulent, but is firm from the low yielding vines. The big, mouth-filling tannins will develop with some patience in the bottle. For those who enjoy full-bodied Cabernets, this is the perfect wine for you.

APPELLATION

Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING

French oak barrels
(55% new, 45% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

September 2015

HARVEST DATE

October 21, 2012

SKIN CONTACT

8 days

TIME

17 months

FIRST VINTAGE

2012