



## 2013 JOHN C. SULLENGER VINEYARD®

Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville, Napa Valley



### VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The home vineyard of Nickel & Nickel, Sullenger Vineyard is situated behind the winery in the heart of Oakville and is named for John C. Sullenger, who settled the farmstead in the 1880's. The vineyard's 28 acres of clay loam soil are planted exclusively to Cabernet Sauvignon, with two rootstocks and a few different clones which each add a unique element to the resulting wine.

### HARVEST NOTES

Similar to 2012, warm days and cool, foggy nights prevailed, offering the perfect conditions for fruit and tannin maturity. We had an early but excellent season, beginning about 10 days ahead of last year with a normal crop load. Our younger blocks are showing beautiful maturity and are now contributing essential flavors to the blend. We adjusted the crop by thinning out the greener fruit at the end of veraison, maximizing flavor development. The younger blocks ripened earlier and were night harvested in late September, while the fruit from the older blocks remained on the vines until mid-October, further achieving fully ripened tannins.

### SENSORY EVALUATION

Dark in color, the 2013 John C. Sullenger Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is a serious wine. Beautiful aromas of red and black fruits, spice and earth offer insight to the characters on the palate; plum, black cherry, anise, cedar, tobacco leaf, and tea blend together to create an abundance of flavors. This wine is thick and coating with a density reminiscent of hillside fruit. Slightly chalky tannins resolve as juicy fruit claims the finish.

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### APPELLATION

Oakville, Napa Valley

### VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

### AGING

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

### RELEASE DATE

September 2016

### HARVEST DATES

September 20 - October 15, 2013

### SKIN CONTACT

11 days

### TIME

18 months

### FIRST VINTAGE

1997