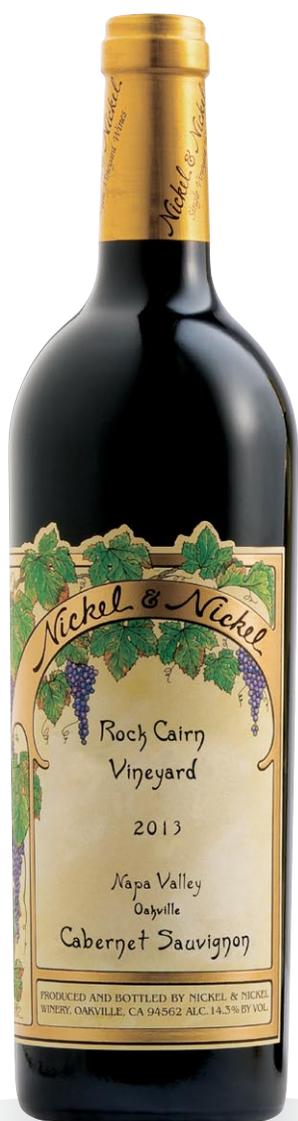




2013 ROCK CAIRN VINEYARD

Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Planted in 1984, Rock Cairn Vineyard lies near the southern edge of the Oakville appellation, east of Highway 29 and north of the town of Yountville. The 30-acre vineyard is named for the “cairns,” or piles of rocks, that were formed long ago when Indians traversed the hills and would place a rock on the pile as an offering for safe passage. The site is comprised of deep, gravelly loam with a western exposure, and the vines produce very concentrated fruit late in the season. Nickel & Nickel selects grapes from nine acres of the vineyard.

HARVEST NOTES

Similar to 2012, warm days and cool, foggy nights prevailed, offering the perfect conditions for fruit and tannin maturity. The season began about 10 days ahead of last year and the vines looked well balanced going into the summer. We pulled leaves early, concentrating around the fruit, and shoots were rearranged to give adequate exposure and to acclimate the clusters to the warm summer sun. Second crop removal is key in this vineyard due to the extra vigor of the vines, and a few passes in the vineyard are required to ensure that we receive the best quality fruit. This vineyard ripens slowly and we waited until mid-October to harvest, and was close to the last location picked in the 2012 season.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2013 Rock Cairn Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon presents a captivating array of characters. This wine opens with plum, black cherry, herb and earth aromas. While this Cabernet Sauvignon offers incredible juicy fruits, it is the well-integrated tobacco leaf, bay leaf, anise and oak spice that make it compelling. Enhanced by a vibrant acidity, the texture of this wine is smooth and velvety, providing a long and juicy finish.

APPELLATION

Oakville, Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING

French oak barrels
(52% new, 48% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

September 2016

HARVEST DATE

October 18, 2013

SKIN CONTACT

11 days

TIME

17 months

FIRST VINTAGE

1997