



2012 COPPER STREAK VINEYARD

Cabernet Sauvignon, Stags Leap District, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Copper Streak Vineyard is located in a protected hollow at the base of the palisades in Stags Leap District. The soils are composed of Perkins gravelly loam mixed with red, copper-like streaks, which is how the vineyard got its name. The vines receive a western exposure and are of moderate size, yielding loose clusters with small berries. The climate in Stags Leap is very warm; however, mid afternoon breezes sweep in to cool things down, allowing for excellent ripening. Nickel & Nickel Copper Streak Cabernet is produced from seven of the vineyard's 30 acres.

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. We pulled leaves around the fruit early to give adequate exposure and to acclimate the clusters to the warm summer sun. Bloom and veraison occurred two weeks ahead of last year and these smaller vines yielded a very balanced crop load. Berry size was slightly larger this year and this vineyard was night harvested in mid-October, just as the fruit started to dimple.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2012 Copper Streak Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon offers a perfume of currant and cassis blended with an intriguing minerality. The palate bursts with notes of cassis, chocolate, tobacco and herbs. The middle palate is thick and coating and the wine seems to expand as the velvety, yet firm, tannins carry the fruit flavors into a long and lingering finish. This wine will continue to evolve with a little patience in the bottle and can easily be cellared until 2025.

APPELLATION

Stags Leap District, Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING

French oak barrels
(51% new, 49% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

September 2015

HARVEST DATE

October 15, 2012

SKIN CONTACT

14 - 16 days

TIME

18 months

FIRST VINTAGE

2005

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