

RED CAP VINEYARDS

2014 HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2014 will be remembered as the year a powerful earthquake rocked Napa Valley. It was also the third in a series of drought vintages, making for an accelerated growing season. Despite the drought, the timing of late spring rains delayed irrigation needs and moderated vine stress. The summer was cooler than in 2013, and thanks to those cooler conditions, the wine retained its fresh fruit character and terrific natural acidity.

Overall, there is a remarkable harmony of fruit and structure in this wine. The color is inky and opaque with noticeable viscosity. On the nose the aromas are complex and enticing. Layers of bay laurel, licorice, mint, white pepper and forest floor support the generous red and black fruit. Wispy notes of baking spice, cedar and sage round out this beauty. The tannins are as you expect from Red Cap, elegant and refined yet substantial. Mouth feel is round and big with a finish that goes on for days. While delicious now, this wine will age beautifully for decades. Only 398 cases produced.

Wine: 2014 Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation: Howell Mountain, Napa Valley

Varietal: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Barrel Regime: 29 months, French oak, 60% new

Alcohol: 14.6%

pH: 3.79

TA: 5.85 g/L

Bottled: April 5th, 2017

Winemaker: Rudy Zuidema

Production: 398 cases