

2013 CABERNET FRANC

CALISTOGA

VINTAGE NOTES

Following an idyllic 2012 vintage for Napa Valley wines, 2013 proved to be a full-blown paradise. For the first time in many seasons, murmurings of “the best vintage ever” were no exaggeration.

Aside from an early heat spike in late spring and warmer temperatures through the summer, challenges were minimal. In fact, the heat worked to our advantage. The non-stop nature of the growing season resulted in a larger than average crop, similar in size to 2012, but with more highly concentrated fruit. Smaller berry size made for better extraction and, in turn, a dark, super-structured vintage.

2013 was the first year Elusa winemaker Thomas Rivers Brown oversaw production from bud break to the bottling line. It was also the final crop harvested from the Elusa Estate Vineyard, and the last wine made in the estate winery before the Four Seasons Calistoga broke ground.

VINEYARD NOTES

Elusa's 2012 and 2013 vintages were grown in our Estate vineyard that was replanted in 2018, so these wines are unique opportunity to taste the wines that drew our winemakers to this terroir in the first place. Located in the Calistoga AVA, the vineyard's higher elevation leads to more balanced and acidic wines, though still considered valley floor. The vineyard consists of bale loam soil known for being rich in nutrients which result in high-quality wine grapes.

TASTING NOTES

This 2013 Cabernet Franc from our Elusa Estate Vineyard is singing beautifully right now: integrated, lively, with just the right amount of age to soften the wine perfectly. A rich, full-bodied wine, our 2013 Cabernet Franc appears garnet in color. On the nose notice aromas of strawberry preserve, dried cranberry, leather, and earth. This wine brings on a subtle attack with a deliciously full mid-palate that leads to a satisfyingly juicy and bright finish.



TECHNICAL DATA

APPELLATION | CALISTOGA - NAPA VALLEY
VARIETAL | 100% CABERNET FRANC
VINEYARD SOURCE | ELUSA ESTATE
AGING | 20 MONTHS
COOPERS | BARON & TREUIL
ALCOHOL | 14.3%
BOTTLING DATE | JUNE 2015
PRODUCTION | 100 CASES
WINEMAKER | THOMAS RIVERS BROWN



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