



THE STEVEN KENT WINERY

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## BDX COLLECTION

### 2013 CABERNET SAUVIGNON | LIVERMORE VALLEY

#### HARVEST NOTES

2013 was as ideal a year to farm wine grapes as I have seen in the Livermore Valley in nearly 20 years. Clement weather throughout the year and no precipitation in August and October produced one the highest yields California has ever seen. More importantly, the quality of fruit was uniform and extraordinarily high. The lack of rainfall (only 4.50 inches compared to 14.66 in 2012) did have its negative consequences, however. Lowering water tables caused an increased concentration of dissolved minerals that raised soil pH levels and led to the early senescence of canopy and the concomitant lowering of fruit ripeness levels in certain blocks.

#### WINEMAKER NOTES

The 2013 vintage was of such high quality and comparatively high yields that we were able to make a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon for members of our BDX Collection wine club that was of great quality and also substantially different from the many other Cabernet Sauvignon offerings from this heralded year. This release is a blend of Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard, Home Ranch, and Lencioni Vineyard, and has the Steven Kent hallmarks of rich fruit, great acid, poise, and complexity. In the Livermore Valley, Cabernet Sauvignon has obviously found a very hospitable climate: enough warmth to gain full maturity, and the balancing cool evenings that lead to acid retention and balance. The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon is best served with 18-24 months of bottle age before drinking.

#### TASTING NOTES

The most important quality for any of our wines is the textural component. With a wine such as Cabernet Sauvignon, especially from vineyards we've had a history with, the flavor and aromatic components don't change drastically from vintage to vintage. The way the wine feels, however, can be radically different year to year. Much of our pre-harvest thought is directed toward answering the question as to how we go about making a wine that has length, acid-based pace through the mouth, fine-grained tannin, and breadth and depth of the tannin structure. The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon succeeds in the texture arena quite nicely, showing great entry depth of dark to black fruit, great acidity (which carries the myriad flavors through the mouth with lively pace), and beautiful finishing tannin that undergirds all the fruit and acidity that came before it. This wine will age beautifully for 7-10 years if stored well. Decanting the wine will help to open it up if you choose to drink in the first two years.

#### VINEYARD SOURCE(S)

100% Cabernet Sauvignon from Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard, Home Ranch, and Lencioni Vineyard.

#### HARVEST DATA

October 13-23, 2013 | pH 3.60 | TA .65 | Alcohol 14.5%

#### FERMENTATION

Cold soaked for 5-7 days, individual fermenters inoculated with the D254 and D-21 yeast strains. Extended maceration of 14 days followed primary fermentation.

#### COOPERAGE

Aged for 20 months in 50% new French oak barrels. Primary cooperages were Le Grand, Taransaud, and François Frères.

#### CASES PRODUCED

415 cases

#### RELEASE DATE

February 4, 2017

2013



CABERNET  
SAUVIGNON

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