



2012

RUTHERFORD HILLSIDE RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Winemaker Notes

Tucked behind our old family home on the northwestern edge of the Rutherford appellation is our Hillside Reserve Vineyard. This bench land vineyard sweeps dramatically up the hillside, bordering an ancient creek and wrapping around the natural springs that give our winery its name. The Hillside Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, sourced from a tiny block at the vineyard's highest elevation, was the first Cabernet we chose to bottle on its own. The beautifully-structured 2012 vintage offers classic aromas of blackberry, cassis, cocoa and fresh-baked shortbread. On the generously-textured palate, saturated flavors of blackberry, black currant and blueberry are layered with notes of rich, dark chocolate, mint chocolate and brushy sage. There's also an unmistakable note of Rutherford dust coming through in a hint of loamy earth. With well-integrated French oak flavors and fine grained tannins, this is a classic Rutherford Cabernet built for the long haul.

All the Facts

Appellation:	Rutherford
Varietal:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Case Production:	379
Aging:	22 months, 90% new French oak, 10% one year old French oak
Suggested Retail Price:	\$125
Enjoyability:	Drink now or cellar. Pull the cork until 2028 for optimum enjoyment.

On the Vine

The Flora Springs Estate is unique in the Napa Valley winemaking landscape, as the boundary between the St. Helena and Rutherford appellations runs right through the middle of our property—along a creek on the valley floor which winds up through the hillside of the renowned Rutherford bench. The fruit for our Rutherford Hillside Reserve Cabernet comes from the Rutherford side, from Block J near Flora and Jerry Komes' original home.

The 2012 vintage was one for the record books in Napa Valley, with a near perfect growing season that featured warm days, cool evenings and no heat spikes or rain events to speak of. With an ideal weather pattern that resulted in normal bud break, flowering and fruit set along with slow, even ripening, the fruit from the 2012 harvest was simply exceptional, with deep color, good acidity and highly concentrated flavor.



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