



WINEMAKER NOTES

Petit Verdot is one of the classic red varietals of Bordeaux, valued for its ability to add color, tannin and flavor to traditional red wine blends. We've planted the variety in our Crossroads Vineyard in Oakville and our Pope Valley vineyard, and have often used it to add strength and complexity to our Trilogy red wine. In 2013, a fantastic vintage led us to bottle a small amount of Petit Verdot on its own exclusively for club members and winery visitors. Exhibiting deep and saturated aromas of plum, cassis and hints of granite dust, the wine has a lush palate that picks up sweet cranberry, dark roasted espresso, star anise, and white pepper, finishing with the savory characteristic of bacon. The wine's tannins are soft and supple making it approachable at an early age yet capable of cellaring for two to three years. Petit Verdot is user-friendly when selecting food pairings. Roasted vegetables with polenta, pork loin, or lamb would all be terrific choices.

ALL THE FACTS

Appellation: *Napa Valley*

Varietal: *100% Petit Verdot*

Cases Produced: *210*

Aging: *19 months in 100% French Oak*

Suggested Retail Price: *\$50*

Enjoyability: *Drink now through 2019 for optimum enjoyment*

ON THE VINE

Though 2012 was a stellar vintage, 2013 may have been even better. In Napa Valley a warm, dry spring brought early bud break and created ideal conditions for flowering and fruit set. With the exception of one heat spike, temperatures in June and July were consistently in the zone for optimal vine activity, resulting in notably healthy vines as fruit went through veraison and ripening. Harvest was early, and when it came to a close it was about two weeks earlier than other Napa Valley harvests of the last decade.