

DUCKHORN

VINEYARDS

NAPA VALLEY



2013 Napa Valley Merlot

Stout Vineyard

Stout Vineyard is located at approximately 1,700 feet in the Howell Mountain appellation—one of the Napa Valley's most sought-after, ultra-premium winegrowing regions. As a result of its elevation, topography, soils and climate, Howell Mountain consistently produces a dark, dense and structured Merlot displaying rich wild berry and herb characteristics. In keeping with its mountain origins, this wine is supported by ample tannins, yielding a complex, age-worthy expression of Merlot.

2013 Harvest Notes

The 2013 harvest was early, even and excellent with all of our Estate fruit in the winery by October 10th. A warm dry spring brought an early bud break and created ideal conditions for flowering and fruit set. In the weeks after Labor Day, a moderate heat event followed by a period of perfect weather created a dream scenario for end-of-season ripening. Rain was not a factor, and for the second vintage in a row, the quality of the grapes was exceptional throughout Napa Valley.

Comments from the Winemaker

Beginning with aromas of blueberry, mahogany, leather, violet and nutmeg, this lovely Merlot evolves in the glass, slowly revealing itself in fascinating layers. On the palate, flavors of black raspberry, currant, cocoa powder and licorice, are underscored by hints of cedar and earth, as well as firm Howell Mountain tannins and a velvety texture.

Varietal Content

100% Merlot

Harvest Information

Appellation: Napa Valley – Howell Mountain

Harvest Dates: September 28 – October 4, 2013

Average Sugar at Harvest: 26.5° Brix

Stout Vineyard

Cooperage

100% French Oak, Chateau-Style Barrels (60 gallons)

Barrel Aging: 18 Months

Age of Barrels: 85% new oak, 15% neutral

Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%

Titrateable Acidity: 0.56 g/100ml

pH: 3.70

Bottled: July 2015

Released: September 2016