



## 2012 STICKYBEAK CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEMAKER :	Wayne Donaldson
REGION :	Napa Valley
VARIETALS :	Cabernet Sauvignon (83%), Merlot (17%)
MATURATION :	16 months in French oak (30% new)
ALCOHOL :	14.5% alc/vol

### VINEYARD :

Our objective is to create a seamless Cabernet Sauvignon - nothing overdone, especially the oak. To achieve this, we sought vineyards from valley floor in Rutherford, as well as Oak Knoll, and the Chiles Valley. The blend of earthy, fruit-driven Cabernet from the valley floor combined with chiseled hillside tannins and acidity is very appealing. This, along with a small parcel of Merlot, imparted the desired palate weight and texture.

### WINEMAKING :

After harvest, it's really hands off as much as possible. To get the ball rolling, we start with a brief three day cold soak followed by an 18-day fermentation. We then allow for a two week post-ferment maceration. The varietals are kept separate during their 16-month maturation before final blending and bottling - unfinned and unfiltered.

### TASTING NOTES :

The 2012 Stickybeak Cabernet Sauvignon shows classic Cabernet notes of dark berry fruit, pencil shavings and earthiness on the nose. On the palate, the wine is fleshy and ripe with rich, vibrant fruit such as red and black currant as well as chocolate and coffee. Rich and deep, the wine has finely structured tannins and an energetic finish.

### CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

**87 pts** Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT THAT NAME . . . 'Stickybeak': Australian slang for 'nosey neighbor', or to be 'overly inquisitive'. After twenty years living in California's wine country while importing regional benchmarks from the Antipodes, our curious streak got the better of us. We searched for the best sites that the California wine-growing regions in our backyard have to offer, and the grape varieties that best express their individuality. Whether its Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc from Sonoma's Russian River Valley or Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir, our wines are hand-crafted, authentic expressions of the land they come from.



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