



2015 STICKYBEAK CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEMAKER:	Bill Nancarrow
REGION:	Napa Valley
VARIETALS:	Cabernet Sauvignon (90%), Merlot (10%)
MATURATION:	15 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 15-month maturation before final blending and bottling - unfinned and unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES:

Typical Napa Valley floor notes of ripe dark fruits and cassis are complemented by lifted and high toned red berry notes from the higher elevations. Oak derived cedar and clove spice are on full display, but tempered by an impressive freshness. The palate is well structured with ripe tannins providing the frame for the blackberry, plum and vanilla flavors. The wine is medium bodied with a lovely natural balance and finishes with length and clarity.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

Not yet reviewed.

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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