

# CARDINALE

2013

NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

"I think what separates the exceptional artist from the great artist is a body of consistently great work with examples that move beyond "great" to the exceptional. John Coltrane's *A Love Supreme*, Led Zeppelin's *Houses of the Holy*, Michelangelo's *David*, Hitchcock's *North by Northwest*, Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*, are all examples of just this idea. The artist's general body of work is significant in its ability to move you but the specific examples spiritually touch you.

In the wine world Napa Valley is one of those geographies whose consistent, high quality vintages move you emotionally. In any given decade you may have four really good vintages and six excellent vintages; trying to distinguish between them becomes a matter of personal taste. Vintage 2013, though, was one of those vintages that moved beyond that scale. This was a vintage of perfect conditions—conditions for developing a balance and variety of flavor, acid and tannin at levels that will carry the wines across time. This vintage will go down as one of the most exceptional of the 21st century.

At Cardinale, as we sat down to blend the 2013s, we knew that Mother Nature had created her transcendent work. It was up to us to present Cardinale to you as one of the wines that would exemplify this vintage now and far into the future. This was a responsibility we did not take lightly, knowing we had to focus on the depth, the power, the subtlety and complexity of this vintage. In the end I am confident we created a wine that captures that idea and those aspects and celebrates 2013 as it should be—transcendent. Enjoy!"

- CHRISTOPHER CARPENTER, WINEMAKER

## WINE STATISTICS

APPELLATION:	100% Napa Valley
COMPOSITION:	86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot
BARREL AGING:	19 months in 100% French oak, 91% new
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
FINISHING:	Unfined and Unfiltered

VINEYARD	Veeder Peak	Yverdon	Keyes	Wallis	La Jota	Clos Du Val	Andrew Geoffrey	Rhyolite	Van Z	Spring Mountain
APPELLATION	Mount Veeder	Spring Mountain District	Howell Mountain	Diamond Mountain District	Howell Mountain	Stags Leap	Diamond Mountain District	Diamond Mountain District	St. Helena	Spring Mountain District
ELEVATION	1,400 to 1,600 feet	1,800 feet	1,700 feet	1,500 feet	1,800 feet	65 to 85 feet	1,850 feet	1,100 feet	150 feet	1,800 feet
SOILS	gravelly loam, black soils	volcanic loam	white & red volcanic rocky loam	volcanic loam	rhyolitic tuff, iron clay, volcanic rock	haire loam, bale clay loam	volcanic loam	volcanic loam	gravelly loam	volcanic loam
VARIETALS	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Merlot	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon
% CONTRIBUTIONS	28%	18%	13.5%	13%	12.5%	6%	3%	3%	2%	1%
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BLEND	blue fruit, length, backbone	fine tannins, floral, red fruit	dark fruit, herb, weight	sweet, middle, some red	dark fruit, herb, weight	sweet red, middle, fine tannin	dark cherry, broad tannin	dark cherries, round tannins	middle, red/dark, lush	fine tannins, floral, red fruit

97 POINTS

*"The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon is simply stunning. A real head-turner, the 2013 possesses superb density and tons of pure power. The flavors are deep, powerful and explosive... This is a real stand out."*

- ANTONIO GALLONI, *Vinous Media*, OCTOBER 2015

96 POINTS

*"...rather sublime and intense Cabernet Sauvignon that should drink well for 25 or more years... It is certainly one of the finest Cardinales I have tasted in my experience."*

- ROBERT M. PARKER, JR., *The Wine Advocate*, OCTOBER 2015