



2012 Barrel Blend

Production: 8,000 cases

Composition: 65% Merlot, 9% Syrah, 9% Malbec, 5% Petit Verdot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Zinfandel & 3% Petit Sirah.

Vineyards: Beau Terre, Red Door, Lazar, Beau Terrior, Baker, Smith, Mogambo, Bardessono.

Appellations: Oak Knoll, Yountville, Wooden Valley, Atlas Peak, Carneros.

Elevation: Valley floor – 1500 ft.

Cooperage: Aged 14 months in barrel - 20% new oak (10% American, remainder in French).

Alcohol: 14.8%, TA 0.59, pH 3.69

Bottling date: 12/10/13

Release date: March 2014

Release price: \$28.00

The Hill Family Estate Barrel Blend is put together with the help of Kyle Knox, a great surfer and a wine professional, who loved the idea of “being in the barrel” as both a wine term, and a surfing term. 2012 was a great year especially for Merlot that just burst with berry fruit and great color. The Petit Sirah was again a great asset for density and texture, and in combination with the Zinfandel from Wooden Valley, really added perky spice to our lovely base of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Winemaker Alison Doran’s tasting notes:

Wow – this is a big wine. Deep black cherry and boysenberry fruit are under laid by spicy vanilla flavored oak. Fitting into the picture are raspberry, plum, licorice, and chocolate. The wine has a well-constructed young palate, with fruit crammed into the structure to form an intense ripe blackberry-boysenberry center.