

2013 Malbec

Production: 200 cases

Composition: 99% Malbec & 1% Petit Verdot

Vineyards: Smith, Baker, Windy Flats, Beau Terroir, Apallas Vineyard

Appellation: Napa Valley

Elevation: Valley floor – 1500 ft.

Cooperage: 50% new Oak (30% American oak -Barrel 21 and Radoux Appalachian, 20%

Stavin French oak), 50% neutral French oak

Alcohol: 15.5%, TA 0.53, pH 3.79 **Bottling date:** February 24, 2015

Release date: Fall 2016 Release price: \$58.00

Malbec has become a quiet cult favorite, and we have made some wonderful ones that normally go into our Cabernet programs, but we wanted to let our ambassadors share some of the excitement. We had (4) different Malbecs again in 2013, each with different personalities and strengths. Now we really can't bottle all of them separately, and besides they taste better as a blend, but Malbec has a deep fruity charm that has it becoming a big success in some parts of the world.

Winemaker Alison Doran's tasting notes:

The aromas are a little slow coming out, with dark red roses and red currants mixed with light toasty butterscotch and some fig jam. But the palate makes me remember why I love to drink Malbecs – first it is serious, then so broad and gentle and easy. Its wide spreading textures and dark jammy fruit get rounded up and put back in the center by some nice acidity.