

PINE RIDGE

VINEYARDS

2012 HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

SINCE OUR FOUNDING IN 1978, WE HAVE PROUDLY PRODUCED APPELLATION CABERNETS THAT SHOWCASE THE UNIQUE CHARACTER OF THOSE REGIONS AND OUR ESTATE VINEYARDS WITHIN THEM. IT WAS ONLY THIRTEEN YEARS AGO THAT WE WERE ABLE TO ADD THE HOWELL MOUNTAIN AVA TO THE LIST OF OUR ESTATE VINEYARDS, BUT THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN WORTH THE WAIT.



VINEYARDS Our nine-acre Las Posadas vineyard features an elevation of 2,000 feet above sea level and south-east facing plantings. The rocky, well-drained volcanic soils force the vines to dig deep for water and nutrients, producing smaller, intensely-flavored berries as a result. Despite strong afternoon sun, the climate tends to be cooler because of altitude and maintains acidity throughout ripening.

HARVEST AND WINEMAKING With consistently mild temperatures throughout spring and summer, 2012 was a stellar vintage in Napa Valley, allowing slow, even ripening and yielding exquisite, balanced fruit. The fruit for this wine was harvested at an optimal level of ripeness in early October. The berries were hand-harvested at night, carefully sorted and destemmed to tank, where fermentation took place. Then, the wine was racked to 60% new French oak barrels, where it was aged for 18 months prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES Powerful and alluring, this ruby-black wine boasts an abundant bouquet of ripe black plum, fresh blueberry and cassis fruit swirled amongst hints of black olive, sage and dried violet. The lush, velvety palate enters with bold, ripe black cherry, red raspberry and plum fruit supported by plush tannins and notes of vanilla bean, sweet cream and dark cocoa. The wine is deep and intense from start to end, with lingering minerality and subtle dried tobacco leaf on the unwavering finish.

PAIRING This exuberant, full-bodied bottling would be best matched with a simple, yet ample meal, such as a braised beef short ribs with polenta and seasonal vegetables. Additionally, this wine served alongside Mimolette, an aged, nutty cheese, would make a delicious and memorable cheese course.

VARIETAL:	99% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 1% CABERNET FRANC
RELEASE DATE:	SEPTEMBER 1, 2015
AGING POTENTIAL:	12 TO 15 YEARS
APPELLATION:	HOWELL MOUNTAIN, NAPA VALLEY
ALCOHOL:	15.0%