



FOUR  
CAIRN

2013 NAPA VALLEY SYRAH

## 2013 Napa Valley Syrah – St. Helena

The 2013 growing season was marked with little rainfall, began with early bud break and stayed that way all season to harvest. Fruit-set was excellent with even veraison and ripening. Temperatures from spring through summer were temperate with highs rarely reaching over the mid-90s. Rains that hurt some earlier vintages never happened giving us signs of the bad draught conditions to come. Harvest was early and the only challenge was getting sugars and flavors in right balance.

Our harvest and fermentation practices remain the same. The goal is to pick our estate grown Syrah at the right time to achieve balance and true varietal character. We employ minimal handling at the winery. The fruit is handpicked from the best vineyard rows and fermented as whole berries. When dry, we perform a very gentle pressing before being racked to French oak barrels. The wine was aged for 17 months in French oak barrels, of which 40% were new.

We were lucky as even though all our barrels experienced falling off their racks with other barrels on the August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 earthquake. No wine was lost.

### Winemaker Tasting Notes:

The aromatics remain potent with big fruit aromas of fresh blueberries, black cherries, subtle roasted meat and fresh cut flowers. On the palate this is a rich, dark, juicy, richly concentrated wine but maintains great freshness with balanced acidity. Flavors include blueberries, cassis and smoked meats with soft elegant tannins to give great length to the finish.

170 Cases Produced  
100% Syrah, Estrella Clone  
17 Months in French Oak, 40% New  
Alcohol, 14.9%

**Four Cairn Vineyard**  
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