

# DARMS LANE

*Napa Valley*



## 2013 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, BON PASSE VINEYARD, NAPA VALLEY

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**VINEYARD:** The Estate Bon Passe Vineyard is located in the southwestern bench lands of Napa Valley, in the Oak Knoll District appellation. The vineyard is comprised of both hillsides and valley floor, with varying soil types. As a result, we harvest our six blocks separately to take advantage of the different lots and add complexity to our wines.

**APPELLATION:** Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley

**GROWING SEASON NOTES:** The 2013 vintage started out slightly earlier than normal with bud break in mid-March for the Cabernet Sauvignon. Even temperatures and a slightly warmer first half of the growing season lead to expectations of a very early harvest. Things cooled down for August and into early September causing the grapes to slowly approach their peak. With a warming trend in September we picked the Merlot and some Cabernet Sauvignon blocks on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. This was followed by ten days of cooler weather that permitted extended hang time. The early October weather in the low 90's helped push the rest of the Cabernet and Petit Verdot to their peak ripeness allowing us to complete harvest by October 8<sup>th</sup>.

**VARIETAL:** 91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot, 4% Merlot

**WINEMAKER:** Brian Mox

**BARREL AGING:** 21 months in Oak – 45% new: 90% French, 10% American

**WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES:** Our 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon reveals notes of black cherry, mocha, cassis, vanilla, cocoa and toasted oak with some baking spices. Full and concentrated palate with fine-grained and supple tannins, slightly chewy with mouthwatering flavors of black cherry, chocolate and briary blackberry. Our 2013 shows the typical concentrated palate of the Bon Passe thus we recommend some decanting. The rich fruit and savory flavor profile make it an ideal pairing for grilled meats and hearty dishes.

**PRODUCTION:** 600 cases