

PETER PAUL

— WINES —

2014 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Just a few minutes after 3 a.m. on August 24, the earth shook. In Napa Valley, it was the biggest trembler in memory; the entire wine industry rushed to our cellars fearing the worst. A few Cabernet barrels came tumbling down, but the bungs remained solidly in place, and nothing broke. We consider ourselves very fortunate!

About the Vintage

Aside from this momentous beginning, the 2014 harvest was fairly even keel. The growing season was blessed with moderate, stable temperatures and plenty of sunshine. To say the year was conducive to quality is an understatement. Additionally, the 2014 vintage bottling of Cabernet Sauvignon marks a new chapter in the evolution of Peter Paul Wines. We consolidated winemaking facilities in Napa, changed vineyard sources and blending protocols for the first time in a while, and upgraded our labels and website www.peterpaulwines.com, all done under the supervision of Martin R. Reyes, our new “Chief Wine Officer.”

About the Vineyards and Winemaking

As has consistently been the tradition with our Napa-designate Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine is sourced from both **valley floor** grapes—garnering a fleshy, ripe core of flavors and **mountainside vineyards**—providing structure and acidity. This year, we also found a nice plot in Chiles Valley sub-appellation that adds a bright red fruit vibrancy. Finally, the surprise addition of a dollop of Petite Sirah from a west-facing vineyard atop Mt. Veeder (a first for Peter Paul) provides a nice, spice-laden character on the finish.

Fermentation featured both open and closed-top fermenters and gentle pump-overs followed by 4 weeks of extended maceration for maximum flavor extraction, with each varietal lot vinified and aged separately in traditional barriques for 14 months. Further maturation for a full year in stainless steel tanks allowed the various components to fully integrate. This Cabernet was bottled without fining or filtration.

Tasting Note:

Black cherry, blueberry, mocha aromas with a suggestion of black tea and vanilla keep things interesting, especially after a few minutes in the glass. Those blue & black fruits continue on the palate, with an earthy finish of bay laurel and leather, all the while being framed by a fun spicy character. A less tannic yet riper style than our 2013, this is a perfect mid-term-drinking Cabernet Sauvignon that gains complexity with a little air in the glass. Drink over 5-8 years.



Technical Data:

Variety: Cabernet Sauvignon

Blending Varieties: 11% Petite Sirah, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot

Vineyard Sources: St. Helena, Mt Veeder-West, Chiles Valley, Pope Valley

Vessel: 14 months in barrique, 40% new

Production: 398 cases, sixty magnum bottles, and nine Jeroboams