

CHATEAU MONTELENA

ESTATE CABERNET

2012

Nose Extraordinarily rich notes of dried cherry, cocoa, muddled mint, and blackberry. As the wine continues to breathe, one by one subtle hints of tobacco, cedar, and perfume emerge with patience.

Palate There is considerable depth on the palate as fresh, tart raspberries contrast the rocky, earth undertones, so emblematic of our Estate, leading to a texture that is at once austere, awaiting further time in bottle, and voluptuous.

Finish After two years in oak, the tannins are wonderfully integrated with just enough toast to seamlessly transition to blueberry, cassis, and mocha on the finish.

Vintage Weather

2012 was one of those vintages that allowed us to express what makes the Montelena Estate a rarity, even in the Napa Valley. Our porous alluvial soils and craggy volcanics soaked up the late spring rains, which, coupled with copious sunshine and moderate temperatures, set the stage for an ideal growing season. By August, as most of the Valley dealt with triple digit highs, reliable northerly breezes materialized by mid-afternoon as the substantial heat inland drew in ocean air from the Pacific, which thundered down Mt. St. Helena to cool our Estate. In short, the fruit from this vintage experienced the best of what this vineyard can offer, allowing us to craft a wine of elegance, structure, and finesse.

Technical Information

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| Harvest Dates | September 22 - October 21 |
| Blend | 98.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Cabernet Franc, 0.5% Petit Verdot |
| Alcohol | 13.8% |

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| Barrel Aging | 24 months, 100% French, 30% new |
| Botting Date | February 2016 |
| Release Date | March 2016 |