

ROBERT CRAIG WINERY

SPRING 2016





A NOTE FROM ELTON ...

Dear Craiger,

The green shoots are starting to pop all over the Napa Valley floor with some much needed rain in the midst of some serious tequila sipping deck weather. As wet as we are getting, the rain is needed and welcome.

The first 2013 vintage Cabernet Club wines are on their way to your door, and what wines they are! Without doubt, our 2013 releases are the best we have made to date. The wines are deep and complex with tremendous color and power while refusing to sacrifice structure.

For those who have not yet seen the new label, I am reasonably certain that you will welcome the new design. The label which served us so well from the 1992 first release through the 2012 vintage release needed a sprucing up. With a nod to classic Bordeaux, we elongated the label to allow our script and appellation designations room to breathe. Along the top of the label the summit ridge of Howell Mountain is featured in an embossed, die cut that serves as a tribute to our winery's status as one of the original Howell Mountain pioneers in the Napa Valley.

Along with the label change, the wines have entered a new level of quality, age-worthiness and acclaim. The hard hours of labor in our vineyards and winery over the past ten years are now appearing in the finished wines. Our Affinity bottling for the 2013 vintage is now estate grown, cane pruned and old vine. The production was nearly halved in order to produce a wine that we feel more narrowly defines a vineyard site. The color and definition of this wine will be your first indication that our classic hillside Bordeaux blend is not the same Affinity you have been enjoying for years. This release is serious business.



We hope to see you here in Napa at the Spring Release Party, or perhaps up on the mountain come September for the Annual Harvest Party. In the meantime, let us know what you think – of the label design and of the wines. Shoot us an email or visit us on Facebook or Instagram – we'd love to hear from you.

Peace,

Elton Slone, President/CEO/Partner



Cabernet Sauvignon ELEVATED™

2013 AFFINITY ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

The 2013 vintage marks our 20th anniversary of producing Affinity Cabernet Sauvignon. It is also our first vintage of Affinity bottled as a 100% estate grown, single vineyard selection from our La Londe Vineyard. Our primary mission at Robert Craig Winery is to produce wines that feature pure site expression. While the soul of Affinity has always come from La Londe Vineyard, we are now able to capture the essential, laser beam focus of this truly extraordinary site.

La Londe Vineyard: Just south of Stag's Leap, nestled in the Mt. George Foothills on the eastern side of the Napa Valley, our La Londe estate vineyard has produced exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon for our portfolio since Bob Craig purchased the property back in 1993. As a hillside, cane-pruned site that bears just 2.8 tons per acre, La Londe vineyard costs nearly twice as much to farm as a similar sized property on the valley floor. The 30-year-old vines allow a rare display of the volcanic, stony soils in the finished wines. Grapes are typically small, deeply red flavored, and undeniably racy with a big backbone of acidity. Despite an inherent suppleness, the 2013 Affinity Cabernet will cellar easily for decades to come.

APPELLATION Napa Valley

VARIETAL(S) 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot,
5% Petite Verdot, 4% Malbec, 1% Cabernet Franc

TA 6.2 G/L | PH 3.63 | ALCOHOL 14.8%

CASES PRODUCED 4500

93+ POINTS

Robert Parker, *The Wine Advocate*, December 31, 2015

"The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Affinity has an inky purple color that is much more saturated than its two predecessors. This is a richer style of wine with much greater density, power and intensity. Opaque to the rim with more tannin, extract and muscle ..."

94 POINTS

James Suckling, January 2016

"The blueberry and blackberry aromas are prevailing here with a spearmint and fresh herb undertone. Full body, chewy tannins and slightly austere now, but will be even more flavorful and beautiful in a year or two."





Cabernet Sauvignon
ELEVATED™

2013 MOUNT VEEDER CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Far across the valley, the Pym Rae vineyard sits at the summit of Mount Veeder, rising to 1800 feet and separating Sonoma County from Napa Valley. The vineyard is actually two separate blocks; the upper elevation site called “Pym Rae–Upper” and the lower elevation site employing an equally creative naming scheme. This vineyard has distinctive blue shale, producing Cabernet Sauvignon with remarkable depth and longevity. 2013 was an outstanding year.

Tasting Notes The 2013 is especially dark and brooding, exhibiting the unique Mount Veeder terroir in its rich palette of black fruits and fine-grained tannins. Alluring black raspberry, blueberry and floral tones offset sweet tannins and a weighty, full-bodied opulence.

APPELLATION Mount Veeder, Napa Valley

VARIETAL(S) 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot

TA 5.8 G/L | **PH** 3.7 | **ALCOHOL** 15%

CASES PRODUCED 997



94 POINTS

Robert Parker, *The Wine Advocate*, December 31, 2015

“... shows that haunting blueberry, raspberry, black raspberry and floral notes that seem characteristic of that AVA. A dense ruby/purple color, beautifully sweet purity, full-bodied opulence with a layered mouthfeel as well as sweet tannin make for an other great 2013 that can be drunk young or cellared for 20-25 years.”

94 POINTS

Antonio Galloni, *VINOUS*, January 2016

“The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon (Mt. Veeder) opens with a blast of dark blue/purplish fruit, spices, menthol and licorice. A host of graphite, slate, game, iron and savory notes appears later, adding considerable nuance throughout. The 2013 packs plenty of intensity ...”



2014 GAP'S CROWN VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

Our second vintage from the spectacular 138-acre Gap's Crown Vineyard, situated on the western edge of Sonoma Mountain. It is a hillside vineyard with extremely stony soils and low yields that crowns, if you will, The Petaluma Gap. This gap in the coastal mountain range is a fog and breeze pocket that draws cool ocean wind and fog from the Bodega Bay inland. Cool temperatures, low pH values and high natural acidity produce wines of stunning vibrancy.

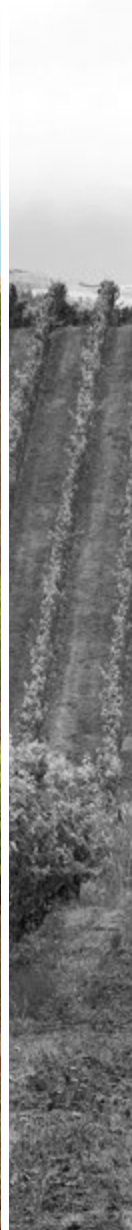
Tasting Notes Bright fruit aromas of citrus, apple, pear and white peach along with hints of brioche and baking spice followed up with a subtle floral note. The flavors are crisp and steely with juicy citrus fruit finishing with flint and mineral.

APPELLATION Sonoma Coast

VARIETAL(S) 100% Chardonnay

TA 7.0 G/L | PH 3.31 | ALCOHOL: 14.25%

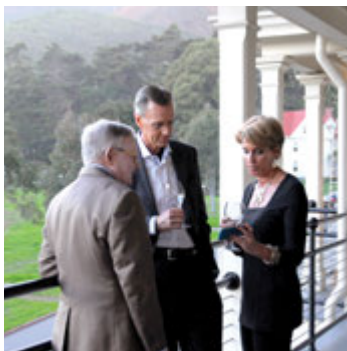
CASES PRODUCED 924





VALENTINE'S WRAP UP

A lovely February evening at Cavallo Point Lodge, with the Golden Gate Bridge in view, was the perfect backdrop for our annual Valentine's Dinner. A 10-year Retrospective of our 2006 Cabernets and the stunning debut of the 2013s set the stage for an evening already filled with warm connections and conversation. Perhaps you might join us next year!



SAVE THE DATES UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 23

Spring Release Party
at Napa Tasting Salon

JUNE 18

Taste of Howell Mountain
at Charles Krug Winery

JULY 23

Summer in the Vineyard
at Affinity Estate Vineyard (Club Only)

AUGUST 6

Mount Veeder Appellation Tasting
at Hess Winery

AUGUST 20

Alpine Society at Candlestick Ridge
(Alpine Society Members Only)

SEPTEMBER 10

Annual Harvest Party
at Howell Mountain Winery (Club Only)





Cabernet Sauvignon
ELEVATED™

ROBERT CRAIG WINE LIST

SPRING RELEASES

2014 Gap's Crown Vineyard Chardonnay	\$50
2013 Affinity Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	\$70
2013 Mount Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon	\$80

CURRENT RELEASES

2012 Spring Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon (3 Bottle limit)	\$80
2013 Howell Mountain Zinfandel	\$55
2013 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$52
2013 Mt. George Cuvée	\$35
2015 La Fleur Rosé — <i>Coming Soon</i>	\$24

375ML BOTTLES

2013 Affinity Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	\$35
2012 Affinity Cabernet Sauvignon	\$28

MAGNUMS — *Ask about older vintages*

2014 Gap's Crown Vineyard Chardonnay	\$115
2013 Affinity Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	\$165
2013 Mount Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon	\$180
2012 Spring Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon	\$180

3 LITERS — *Ask about older vintages*

2013 Mount Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon	\$425
2013 Affinity Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	\$395

MEMBERS ONLY DISCOUNTS

12-Bottle Members	20% off
6-Bottle Members	15% off
3-Bottle & A La Mode Members	10% off

HOW TO ORDER

Visit our online wine shop at robertcraigwine.com
 Stop by our Napa Valley Tasting Salon:
 625 Imperial Way, Suite 1, Napa, CA
 Contact us by phone at 707.252.2250 ext.1, or fax 707.252.2639.

VISIT OUR DOWNTOWN NAPA TASTING SALON

Tastings available by appointment at Bar Craig
 Mon-Sat 10am – 4pm; Sun 11am – 4pm
 Call 707.252.2250 ext.1

or email lori@robertcraigwine.com

Tasting Fee \$25 pp

Complimentary for Cabernet Club members.



robertcraigwinery.com



To inquire about membership, or to upgrade your membership level, please contact us directly at 707.252.2250 ext. 2.

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SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

