

Cakebread Cellars



2013 Benchland Select Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

Vineyards

The grapes for our Benchland Select Cabernet Sauvignon come from two outstanding vineyards – one in Rutherford, the other in Oakville – on Napa Valley’s gently sloping western benchlands. In 2013, the majority of the fruit (59%) came from winery founder Jack Cakebread’s Hill Ranch in the heart of the famed Rutherford appellation. Both sites benefit from an ideal eastern exposure, well-drained alluvial soils and mild summer afternoons, resulting in uniform fruit ripening and cabernet sauvignons that are simultaneously opulent and elegant.

Vintage 2013

In 2013, a warm, dry spring initiated early bud-break, ensured trouble-free vine flowering and grape set, and led to a consistently mild summer fostering steady, even ripening and grapes boasting wonderful flavor concentration. Our Benchland Select grapes were picked between September 25th and October 3rd with an optimum balance of sugar and acidity.

Winemaking

We harvested and fermented our 2013 Benchland Select grapes from eight separate vineyard blocks containing four superior cabernet sauvignon clones (4, 7, 15 and 337). The individual lots fermented in small stainless steel tanks to maximize color, flavor and tannin extraction. Tank sizes, yeast strains, fermentation temperatures, maceration techniques and barrel aging regimens were specifically tailored to the character of each lot, ensuring that the finest attributes of each vineyard block were reflected in the final blend. Our 2013 Benchland Select spent 22 months aging in French oak barrels, 54% new, prior to bottling on August 5th, 2015.

Tasting Notes

Ripe, dramatically concentrated aromas of boysenberry, blackberry and blackcurrant fruit, coupled with seductive chocolate and loam scents, introduce a lush palate of luxurious dark berry, cassis, black fig and dark chocolate flavors framed by round, supple tannins. Seamlessly structured and beautifully balanced, with a very long, sumptuous finish, our 2013 Benchland Select is irresistibly delicious now, but will handsomely reward another 7-10 years of bottle age.

Grape variety: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Vineyards: 100% Napa Valley

Harvest dates: September 25th – October 3rd, 2013

Fermentation: 100% stainless steel

Barrel aging: 22 months in French oak, 54% new

Alcohol: 14.9%

Total acidity: 0.62g/100 ml

pH: 3.64

Bottled: August 5, 2015

Winemaker: Julianne Laks