



## VENGE 2013 FAMILY RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON, OAKVILLE

The 2013 vintage was another winemaker's dream, with ideal conditions in the vineyards throughout the growing season. Many enthusiasts are asking how the vintage compares to the 2012 vintage and we are happy to report that they are nearly identical.

What we are noticing early on is that the 2013 has more extraction, masculinity and "stuffing" to it up front, whereas the 2012 Cabernets are round, uniform, and evenly distributed from entry to finish. If we were comparing past vintages as an equivalent, we look to the 1997 and 1996 vintages respectively. 2013 being like the 1996 and 2012 being like the 1997 as it relates to temperament of the varietal in question. Both the 2012 and the 2013 vintages, if cellared properly, have long lives ahead of them and will benefit from time in bottle.



### IN THE VINEYARD

Harvest took place early on October 3rd. The cane-pruned vines were hand harvested from our Venge Estate vineyard in Oakville. The 2012 vintage was ideal producing a stellar crop. Now in their 27th year, we continue to sustainably "dry farm" these vines by not allowing them any applied summer irrigation. Their roots must find water on their own and struggle in the final months of summer and early fall leading to a complexity and depth of flavor often unequaled in irrigated vineyards.

### IN THE CELLAR

The fruit was destemmed into a combination of small stainless steel tank fermenters, concrete vats, and open top *barrisques*. Time on skins lasted 14 to 45 days. The fruit was then separated to "free run" and "light press" fractions. The Cabernet was aged in 100% new, tight grained, French Oak barrels for a lengthy 27 months. We employ a variety of cooperages for Cabernet including Boutes, Sylvain, Taransaud, Gamba and Alain Foquet. 100% native, spontaneous yeast and malolactic fermentations were also key ingredients in the making of this wine. The gentle use of gravity flow winemaking, whenever possible, is carefully exercised throughout the making of this and every Venge wine. Bottled unfiltered.

325 Cases Produced

100% Cabernet Sauvignon  
0.64 g/100mL T.A.,  
3.74 pH,  
14.8% Alc.

95-97 Points

Wine Advocate, Robert M. Parker, Jr.

"The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Family Reserve—this will be a winner, given its sweet tannin, beautiful blueberry and blackberry fruit and concentrated, full-bodied, majestic mouthfeel and long, dense, pure flavors. It seems surprisingly precocious for a 2013 and for a Venge wine, but its locked-and-loaded, so to speak. This full-bodied classic will be at its best in 5-7 years and last 30 or more years.

