

STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS

2014 DISTINGUISHED VINEYARDS

BATTUELLO VINEYARD

We are fortunate to source grapes from some of the best Cabernet Sauvignon growers in the Napa Valley. To honor the vineyards that stand out, each year we will produce the *Distinguished Vineyards* wines. In 2014, we chose Battuello Vineyard in St. Helena as one of those vineyards because of their rich history and commitment to quality.

VINEYARDS AND WINEMAKING

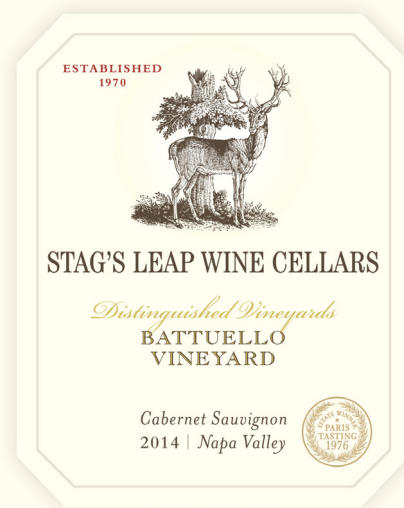
The Battuello Vineyard is a fourth-generation, family-run vineyard in St. Helena – with the fifth generation already living on the farm. The current patriarch (Craig) and his sons (Dave and Mark) meticulously farm the vineyard. Craig and Dave jointly-own the vineyard and Dave takes great pride in carrying on the family tradition. Known for an impeccable farming style, each block is farmed individually. The 2014 is primarily from the “Rockpile,” which is an older block grown in gravelly loam that is full of cobblestones. The area is aptly named, and yields complex wine with beautiful dark fruit and berry flavors and lingering, silky tannins. The grapes were harvested on September 11-16. After fermentation, the wine was aged for 21 months in 100% new French oak.

VINTAGE


2014 was the third in a string of excellent vintages in Napa Valley. After a bone-dry winter and several years of drought conditions, much needed rain arrived in March that filled the soils with moisture. The rain fell at the perfect time and changed the direction of the growing season. In January, the winery team was strategizing to farm for small canopies, tannic fruit and low yields due to the drought. With the March rains, however, the focus in the vineyards shifted to controlling crop size and managing vine vigor. While 2014 was a warm year, there were no extreme heat events. Daytime highs were average yet evenings weren't as cool as normal, giving the vines an ideal growing climate. This allowed the grape varieties to ripen one after another, so grapes were picked and brought into the winery when they were ready. The resulting wines are of extremely high quality with ripe fruit flavors (at lower sugar levels), elegant tannins and great balance.

WINE

This Cabernet Sauvignon offers generous aromas and flavors of ripe berries, cherries, basil along with hints of cassis, cinnamon and dark chocolate. The wine has a plush and polished mouthfeel with silky tannins and a long, elegant finish. Roasted duck breast with a berry compote would make a perfect pairing.



HARVEST:	<i>September 11-16, 2014</i>
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
PH:	3.82
TITRATABLE ACIDITY:	0.54 g/100ml
BARREL AGING:	21 months in French oak (100% new)
BLEND:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
APPELLATION:	Napa Valley
CASES PRODUCED:	430 cases
SUGGESTED RETAIL:	\$110 per bottle
RELEASE DATE:	March 2018


Marcus Notaro
WINEMAKER