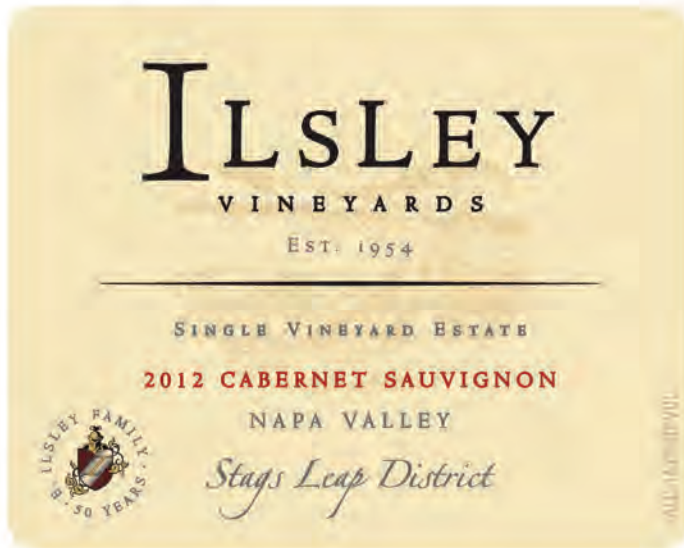


# ILSLEY

VINEYARDS

EST. 1954

## ILSLEY VINEYARDS TASTING NOTES 2012 CABERNET SAUVIGNON



**Vintage:** 2012

**Harvest Dates:** October 6 to 12

**Appellation:** 100% Stags Leap District

**Blend:** 90% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
9% Malbec, 1% Cabernet Franc

**Winemaker:** Heather Pyle

**Bottling Date:** July 23, 2014

**Production:** 283 Cases

**Alcohol:** 14.7%

**Average Brix:** 26.0

**pH:** 3.79

**Total Acidity:** 6.0 g/L

The 2012 growing season and resulting wines are being touted as the best in recent years after uneven 2010's and 2011's in the Napa Valley. We'll go with the crowd on this one since the 2012 Ilsley wines are textbook Stag's Leap but at the same time we are very proud of our 2011's in particular so moving to the 2012 release does not cause us a sigh of relief so much as pure excitement for the new vintage.

### Tasting Notes

The 2012 Ilsley Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon is so dense in color that it is hard to see through and yet the hue at the edge of the glass is a vibrant ruby red. The aromas combine ripe ollaliberry, cocoa and red raspberry with allspice and a touch of vanilla. The flavors are rich upon entry with black cherry, allspice and vanilla. The wine is very soft and approachable but has sufficient tannin to age for many, many years to come.

### Vintage Notes

Following the challenges of the 2011 vintage, 2012 was a welcome change. Nearly ideal growing conditions from bud break to harvest with typical Napa Valley weather, warm days and cool foggy nights. Mild May temperatures during flowering gave us an even fruit set and the long summer days with just enough heat, but not too much, allowed for a long growing season. The result was fully mature Cabernet Sauvignon grapes that we harvested in late September and early October.

### Ilsley Vineyards

Located in the Vaca Mountain foothills of Napa Valley's Stags Leap District lie the Ilsley Vineyards. For three generations our family has provided grapes for some of Napa Valley's finest wines. Now after fifty years of farming, we have hand-selected grapes from our hillside vineyards to produce our own Cabernet Sauvignon that we believe captures the essence of the Stags Leap District.

*We are proud of our vineyards and the fruit that they bear.*



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