



Buena Vista Winery

THE MINT CABERNET FRANC 2023 ST. HELENA, NAPA VALLEY



TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION:	St. Helena, Napa Valley
VARIETY:	Cabernet Franc
AGING:	100% French Oak, 45% new for 23 months
BOTTLING DATE:	October 2023
ALCOHOL:	15%
PH:	3.71
TA:	5.7 g/L

Agoston Haraszthy was never one to play it safe. Before founding Buena Vista Winery in 1857, he became the first Chief Assayer of the San Francisco Mint, turning golden nuggets into the coins that built a nation. When whispers of missing gold swirled, the Count was cleared after the culprit was discovered: gold dust hiding in the building's chimneys and rooftops! Ever restless, he set his sights on Sonoma, where he planted Buena Vista's first vineyards and chased his dream of "purple gold." "The Mint" is a tribute to his daring spirit, his love of adventure, and his belief that California's riches were meant to be shared - whether struck in gold or poured in a glass.

THE VINTAGE

The 2023 growing season in St. Helena was shaped by abundant winter rainfall that replenished soils. Cooler temperatures early in the season led to a later bud break and extended ripening period, allowing fruit to develop gradually and evenly.

Mild summer conditions, punctuated by brief heat events, encouraged balanced flavor concentration while preserving freshness and structure.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

Cabernet Franc thrives in St. Helena's warm days and cool evenings, developing both richness and lift while maintaining varietal elegance. This expression highlights the balance the appellation can achieve, layering ripe dark fruit with savory nuance, fresh acidity, and refined structure. The result is a Cabernet Franc that is expressive and polished, offering depth, complexity, and a sense of place reflective of Napa Valley's northern reaches.

WINE PROFILE

Rich yet energetic, this Cabernet Franc opens with vibrant aromas of red currant, black raspberry, and ripe plum layered with notes of violet, sage, and dried herbs. Subtle hints of cracked pepper, graphite, and toasted spice add complexity, while fine tannins and bright acidity create a polished, expressive palate. Elegant and lifted through the finish, the wine reveals a balance of freshness, savory nuance, and refined structure.