



THE STEVEN KENT WINERY

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## 2013 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, SINGLE VINEYARD SERIES LENCIONI VINEYARD | LIVERMORE VALLEY

### HARVEST NOTES

2013 was as ideal a year to farm wine grapes as I have seen in the Livermore Valley in nearly 20 years. Clement weather throughout the year and no precipitation in August and October produced one the highest yields California has ever seen. More importantly, the quality of fruit was uniform and extraordinarily high. The lack of rainfall (only 4.50 inches compared to 14.66 in 2012) did have its negative consequences, however. Lowering water tables caused an increased concentration of dissolved minerals that raised soil pH levels and led to the early senescence of canopy and the concomitant lowering of fruit ripeness levels in certain blocks.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

The Cabernet Sauvignon Single Vineyard Series is a limited offering of wines that showcases the individual characteristics of a very specific piece of Livermore Valley Cabernet ground. Each of these sites offers a new way of looking at the, oftentimes overlooked, complexity of the Cabernet Sauvignon variety. For this series of wines, the site (and clonal material planted in that site) is the most obvious variable - the moral of the story we are trying to tell - so winemaking techniques, yeast choices, and maceration schedules are left generally the same for each of the four wines presented. Planted in the early 2000s, The Lencioni Vineyard, located off Vineyard Road in the western end of the Livermore Valley appellation, comprises just over 4 acres and two different clones of Cabernet Sauvignon: 337 and 191, both Bordeaux selections. The clones were harvested at different times based upon our perception of readiness after tasting through the block. The grapes were crushed, destemmed, and fermented in 1.7-ton, open-top fermenters. After primary fermentation, the skins continued to macerate in the wine for approximately 14 days to help shape it; the wine was then pressed when we felt it had displayed an appropriate level of texture. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine was aged in mostly new French oak barrels for about 24 months. Only 12 barrels were deemed of high-enough quality to include in this collection of wines.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon – Lencioni Vineyard is our first offering from this site. While we have experience with these clones from other vineyards, the specific soil composition and lay of the land...the terroir of the site will trump the characteristics inherent in the clones. This wine is organoleptically characterized by a balanced blend of red and dark fruits (red cherry, blackberry, cassis), their interplay very obvious in the mouth where the dark fruits add volume and the red a sense of pace and acidity. More importantly than the obvious flavors and aromas, this wine's structure is wonderfully complete: a mouth-filling entry and mid-palate breadth circumscribed by polished tannins, and all underlain with gorgeous acidity that heighten the sense of fruit and freshness in the wine, especially through the mid-palate. The finish contains a very appropriate sense of tannin contribution and youthful hardness (especially in the slightly forward wood tannins that will soften over time) while also displaying a focused line of acid that takes the flavors and structure to a long conclusion. This wine should age gracefully for more than 10 years, and we believe this wine showcases a vision for Cabernet Sauvignon that is in keeping with the world-class potential of the Livermore Valley.

### VINEYARD SOURCE(S)

100% Cabernet Sauvignon: Lencioni vineyard which sits on the western end of the 7-mile axis of world-class quality cutting through the heart of Livermore Valley wine country.

### HARVEST DATA

October 13-20, 2013 | pH 3.62 | TA 0.61 | Alcohol 14.0%

### FERMENTATION

Cold soaked for 5-7 days, individual fermenters inoculated with the D254 and D-21 yeast strains. Extended maceration of 14 days.

### COOPERAGE

Aged for 24 months in mostly new French oak barrels. Primary cooperages were Le Grand, Taransaud, and François Frères.

### CASES PRODUCED

581 six-packs

### RELEASE DATE

January 23, 2016

2013



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VINEYARD

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CABERNET SAUVIGNON • SVS  
LIVERMORE VALLEY