

Eleanor 2012 RED WINE



"I met Eleanor in 1962 on the set of my first feature film. Having much in common, our friendship blossomed into a romance; we married, started a family, and dreamt of having a small country house in the Napa Valley and a few acres of grapes. Unexpectedly, we found ourselves the owner of a large, beautiful wine estate. We now have wineries in both Napa and Sonoma valleys. Eleanor has always been a true partner in all my endeavors, bringing her creativity, honesty and generous spirit to it all -- she's wife, mother, artist, filmmaker -- collaborator and inspiration. For all this and more, after 50 years of marriage, I want to honor her with 'Eleanor', her own wine."—Francis Coppola

THE LABEL

The floral Art Deco design on the label honors Eleanor's love of textiles. She has traveled the world in pursuit of her passion for unique fabrics. This label reflects her special love for patterns that were prevalent during the Art Deco period.

THE WINE

Similar to Australia's famed Penfold's Grange, Eleanor is a robust red blend that combines fruit from both of the Coppola properties. Blending Syrah and Petite Sirah grown in Rutherford with Sonoma Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah we've created a unique bottling that is very long lived with exceptional depth and complexity.

2012 is certain to go down in the books as one of the best vintages of the decade in California. Steady, mild weather throughout the season and at harvest time resulted in very well balanced fruit that offers a luscious texture and intense aromatic properties. This bottling marks our fourth vintage of Eleanor and we couldn't be more pleased with the heights this wine has achieved. Over the last few years we've experimented with different types of oak and fermentation techniques to see what approach works best with the fruit selections. Not only does this rendition reflect an outstanding vintage, it demonstrates a state of refinement as well.

THE TASTE

Our 2012 Eleanor delivers a velvety palate of rich, fragrant fruit that's supported by firm but integrated tannins and dramatic spice notes. Profusely aromatic, the complex bouquet includes a mélange of jammy berries, anise, pepper and smoky oak followed by dark, juicy flavors of black cherries and plums. Less earthy than last year's wine, there are still notable nuances of leather and minerals along with a floral note that develops on long sultry finish. For immediate enjoyment decant several hours before serving, or cellar 3-5 years to experience this wine at its fullest.

BLEND:

Rutherford: 28% Syrah, 6% Petite Sirah
Sonoma County: 58% Cabernet Sauvignon,
6% Syrah, 2% Merlot

BARREL REGIMEN: 20 months in French oak

ALCOHOL: 14.4%

Corey Beck, Winemaker