



2013 Hesperian Cabernet Sauvignon

Kitoko Vineyard
Atlas Peak, Napa Valley

Description

2013 Hesperian Cabernet Sauvignon Kitoko Vineyard Napa Valley is characterized by a very dusty, complex goût de terroir, not unlike a Pritchard Hill wine, this wine brims with notes of marzipan and cherry jam that waft from the glass in a very expressive way. Broad, powerful yet silky and rich with complex notes of tea, earth, black currants, and spices. It has a great purity of fruit. Lively, lifted, structured.

Vineyard

Kitoko Vineyard, named for the Congolese Lingala word for “beautiful,” is a 14.2-acre vineyard high on Atlas Peak, planted to Cabernet Sauvignon in 2000 and 2003.

The soils here are extremely rocky, dry, and poor, quite similar to Pritchard Hill to the north, studded with fractured andesite rock and boulders. The proximity to the San Pablo Bay brings persistent winds which—along with the heat and arid soil, cause the set of very small berries and loose bunches, and consistently delay ripening each year. Dry farming is not possible here, and the vines are watered for brief stretches to optimize ripening.

The Harvest

2013 was simply one of the finest harvests in the Napa Valley in over 20 years. A long, warm, dry growing season caused very low yields in the Kitoko vineyard, but ripening was optimal, and the vintage offered up dense, powerful, structured wines.

ALCOHOL LEVEL:	14.6%
CÉPAGE:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
ÉLEVAGE:	20 Months in 70% new French oak
PRODUCTION:	250 cases
OPTIMAL AGING:	2018 – 2035

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:	93 Points James Suckling
	92 Points Decanter