

2014 von Strasserproduct-pdf - Cabernet Sauvignon Agira Vineyard - Epic Diamond Mountain Cab, 51% Off

Why We're Drinking It

Legendary mountain Cabernet from the spectacular 2014 vintage is coming your way this fine June morning...and at an earth shattering 51% off retail no less! What a glorious Thirsty Thursday it is for those passionate for grippy, powerful Cabs with decades of ageability ahead of them. Let's get to it, shall we?

You've likely heard of von Strasser, the winery synonymous with Diamond Mountain Cabernet, not to mention a slew of medals and 90+ scores from our critic friends. Rudy von Strasser led the movement to establish the AVA in 1998 and spent 25 years on the mountain crafting complex, age-worthy wines showcasing nothing but elegance and grace from this volcanic terroir. Fun fact about Rudy, in 1985 after finishing his studies at UC Davis, he set off to Bordeaux to be the first American to work in the cellars of Chateau Lafite-Rothschild.

Wine Spectator calls 2014 a "dream vintage," James Suckling calls it "extremely attractive." Most everyone will agree that despite remnants of drought conditions and an early start to harvest (and that earthquake we'd like to forget...), the wines beautifully showcase the terroir of the vineyards through balanced, vivid expressions of the fruit.

Charming and polished, the Agira Vineyard shows decadent notes of blackberries, cassis, black cherries and dark chocolate with hints of violets, vanilla, cedar and a touch of menthol. With the first sip you get the grip of those mountain tannins and lively acidity that are met with flavors of fresh cherries, blackberries, rose petals, warm spice and hints of mocha, pepper, tobacco leaf and cedar.

At under \$40 this is an absolute STEAL. Enjoy it with your steaks, your fall roasts, and with an epically curated cheese plate in 10+ years. A must for Cab lovers!! \$156 a 4-pack with shipping included.

Tasting Notes

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VARIETAL

Cabernet Sauvignon

APPELLATION

Diamond Mountain District, Napa Valley

ALCOHOL

14.10

SIZE

750ml

BLEND

Cabernet Sauvignon

The Story to Know

Situated on Diamond Mountain in Napa Valley, the Von Strasser estate maintains six separate vineyards. When Rudy and Rita Von Strasser purchased the old Roddis Winery in 1990, the vineyards were planted in two stages. The oldest block, 2 acres in size, was planted in 1970 to budwood from Martha's Vineyard. The second block, 4 acres in size, was planted in 1983, also with budwood from Martha's Vineyard. In 1991, the von Strasser's embarked upon a vineyard modernization, changing the entire vineyard to a high density, vertical trellis system. An acre of Petit Verdot was planted that year with an eye towards its future use in a unique Reserve bottling. In 1998, a new piece of hillside land was cleared and planted to vineyard. Today, the property consists of Cabernet Sauvignon (12 acres), Petit Verdot (2 acres), and Merlot (1 acre).

Rudy von Strasser's entrance into winemaking came in a serendipitous way. He had just graduated with an agricultural degree from the University of New Hampshire (1980), with a goal of sparking a modern hard-cider industry in New England; after all he wrote his senior thesis on hard-cider production. Rudy thought that he could learn the necessary skills by working for a year in the California wine industry. After a year spent at Robert Mondavi Winery, the wine bug had been firmly planted and Rudy took the obvious next step: he enrolled at the famed Enology program at U.C. Davis,

and graduated in 1985 as a trained winemaker.
