



2012 Outpost Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

<i>Release Date</i>	January, 21 st 2014
<i>Appellation</i>	Howell Mountain
<i>Winemaker</i>	Thomas Rivers Brown
<i>Varietal composition</i>	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
<i>Production</i>	650 Cases
<i>Cooperage</i>	75% new French oak barrels

Winemaker Tasting Notes

From The Wine Advocate

The 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon is a 650-case, 100% Cabernet Sauvignon aged 20 months in 75% new French oak and 25% in older oak. True to the vintage, it is dramatic, ostentatious, savory and opulent. Its dense purple color is accompanied by sweet blackberry and blackcurrant fruit intermixed with notions of graphite, chocolate and vanillin. Lush, pure and voluptuously textured, it is an irresistible Cabernet to drink over the next 12-15+ years.

This is a fabulous source of terrific wines from owners Kathy and Frank Dotzler and their multi-talented winemaker, Thomas Rivers Brown. Not only are the wines outstanding, but their pricing policy is among the less ego-driven in Napa Valley. That is to be applauded.

The 2012s are sexy, outrageously fruity, gorgeous wines that are as sensual as you could want. For me, the two finest Grenaches being made in California come from Alban's Edna Valley Vineyard, and Manfred and Elaine Krankl's Sine Qua Non further south. However, I must say the Outpost Grenache from Howell Mountain (from the Alban

Clone which reportedly was suitcased from cuttings at Châteauneuf du Pape's Château Rayas) is spectacular.