

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

NAPA VALLEY

élevé  
MT. VEEDER

2014

CROUSE VINEYARD

**The Vineyard:** Crouse Vineyard is a 16 acre vineyard planted primarily to Cabernet Sauvignon located in the heart of the Mount Veeder appellation of Napa Valley. Mount Veeder is a volcanic peak that rises to over 2600 feet. Most of this beautiful appellation is covered in Oak, Madrone, Laurel, Fir and Redwood trees with sweeping vineyards carved in to the steep hillsides. This is mountain farming at its best. The rugged landscape and diverse volcanic soils produce extremely low yielding, but intensely concentrated fruit, which makes for wines with amazing complexity. Crouse ranges in elevation from 700 to just over 1000 feet. In 2014 we selected fruit from Bacchus Block. This unique steep terraced hillside block is literally carved in to the mountain and we were immediately drawn to it. Still youthful, this hillside block is planted entirely to Clone 337 Cabernet Sauvignon producing extremely small berries and tiny yields. A perfect site for Eleve!

**Winemaking:** The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes from Crouse's Bacchs Block are so unique and distinctively flavored our job in stewarding the grapes to wine is to capture that very essence with as gentle handling as possible. The grapes were hand picked in the early morning. We gently de-stemmed, sorted the fruit and gravity fed the whole berries in to an open top fermenter for cold soak and primary fermentation using only native yeasts. The grapes were punched down by hand three times a day for approximately two and a half weeks after which the wine was pressed in to French Oak Barrels, 60% new, for malo-lactic fermentation and aging. The wine aged in barrel for 36 months, was racked and bottled unfiltered.

**The Wine:** Displays a vibrant, deep purple- garnet color and an expressive nose of Crème de cassis, mulberries, blackberry pie and licorice with hints of olive tapenade, underbrush and cigar box. Medium to full-bodied and rich with a core of concentrated black and blue fruits coming in savory layers, accented by dusty earth, bay leaf and spicebox. Firmly structured with vibrant, the youthful fruit is supported by chewy tannins that intermingle with the fruit and linger on the lengthy finish.  
**(130 Cases Produced)**

**ADAM WEBB: WINEMAKER**  
**adam@gardiennewines.com**

**Eleve Wines:** 2511 Napa Valley Corporate Dr. Suite 115 Napa, CA 94558  
PH: 925-915-1662; Fax: 925-855-1194 Website: [www.gardiennewines.com](http://www.gardiennewines.com)