

GOLD MEDAL WINE CLUB'S
Gold Series Selection



Gold Plus!

Blue Rock Vineyards

2012 'Baby Blue' Red Bordeaux Blend Sonoma Valley



Sonoma Valley's Blue Rock Vineyard was producing wine some 100 years before Cheryl and Kenny Kahn purchased the property in 1987. It was actually discovered by Italian immigrants in the 1880's and named Villa Maria. They planted grapevine cuttings and ancient olive trees, many of which are still producing oil on the property to this day. Villa Maria Vineyard came and went with Prohibition and the land sat dormant until the Kahns brought this distinct land back to life.

Kenny Kahn realized his love of wine in his hometown of Memphis in the 1980's. Following his graduation from Rhodes College, he joined his father in the discount brokerage business. Fortuitously, Kahn's neighbor frequently invited him over to taste from his impressive collection of California and Bordeaux wines, and through this, he was educated about and greatly inspired by these reputable wine-growing areas. Shortly thereafter, he and his wife realized their shared dream of moving out to California, and in 1985 the two made that a reality.

Although Kenny was splitting his time between Blue Rock and a brokerage job in San Francisco, his labor of love was the vineyard. The Kahns renovated the land and the original 19th century home and replanted the vineyard with 46-acres of the five Bordeaux varietals, and 3-acres of Syrah. It's located in Alexander Valley, a vast expanse of land east of the Russian River. The estate benefits from its hillside location, warm days, and most importantly, its notable soil composition of blue pebbles and boulders of serpentine, from which *Blue Rock* gets its name. Although difficult to farm, the serpentine soil forces the vines to struggle and therefore produce lower yields of highly aromatic grapes with concentrated fruit flavors. Kenny credits the vineyards' unique soil for the eloquence of their wines.

Kenny eventually transitioned into wine full-time, and in 2001 he brought on Nick Goldsmith of Simi Winery as a consulting winemaker to produce the inaugural release of 550 cases. Since then, the winery has grown slowly to produce some 6,000 cases a year. Today, his focus is on continuously improving his vineyard with meticulous viticulture techniques, and striving to achieve balance among his vines. Thanks to this, he has been able to produce ultra premium Bordeaux varietal grapes in a region not well known for this style, and we can only expect that more award-winning wines will follow.

Accolades & Tasting Notes

91 POINTS + EDITOR'S CHOICE - *Wine Enthusiast*

The 2012 "Baby Blue" Bordeaux Blend is made with 100% Estate sustainably-farmed fruit. The objective with each Baby Blue Proprietary Blend is to deliver a wine that is simple yet delicious immediately on release. Comprised of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc, 6% Malbec and 5% Syrah, this full-bodied wine has a floral nose with hints of spice and red and black currants. The palate is lush and full of dark black fruits such as black cherries and blackberries with a long, silky finish and velvety tannins. Aged 12 months in French Oak. Enjoy now until 2022.

You Save 19% - 34% off the winery retail price!

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