

CALIFORNIA'S FIRST PREMIUM WINERY

SINCE 1857



Buena Vista Winery

THE ARISTOCRAT

2012

CALISTOGA, NAPA VALLEY



Alcohol: 13.5%

TA: 6.08

pH: 3.61

Aging: 16-18 months, 100% French oak, 15% new oak

Varietals: Valdiguié, Petit Verdot, and Charbono

Appellation: Calistoga, Napa Valley

The inaugural release of the Aristocrat from Buena Vista Winery celebrates and honors Buena Vista's founder, Count Agoston Haraszthy, and the pioneering role he played in creating the California wine world. The Aristocrat, true to his legend, is a noble wine with a regal shield adorning the bottle bearing the Haraszthy family crest.

"The Count of Buena Vista," Agoston Haraszthy was a vivacious pioneer whose love affair with grape-growing started in his homeland of Hungary. Born into the landed nobility in Hungary, Haraszthy grew up amidst famed vineyards and orchards that had been in his family for centuries. Surrounded by tales of intrigue and political exile, The Count immigrated from Europe in 1840 in pursuit of opportunity and freedom in the burgeoning American West. Following the forty-niners in search of gold in the hills of Northern California, Haraszthy sought "purple gold" – the perfect 'terroir' for exceptional wine. He ultimately settled in Sonoma, birthplace of California and capital of the short-lived California Republic, where he founded Buena Vista Winery in 1857.

The Aristocrat is a red wine whose grapes were harvested from vineyards in Napa Valley's Calistoga AVA. It unites Valdiguié, Petit Verdot and Charbono in a harmonious, elegant blend that evokes the unique terroir of Calistoga. The Valdiguié is picked from pre-prohibition vines just off of Picket Road at the base of the Vaca Mountains while the Charbono is grown on one of the last remaining Charbono vineyards in Napa Valley. Petit Verdot adds depth and structure. The wine is aged in separate lots for 16-18 months in 100% French oak (15% new) before being racked, blended and lightly fined.

Intriguing aromas of blueberry, black cherry and plum lead to flavors of dark chocolate, cassis and a touch of violet. The wine is well-structured with integrated tannins and a long, smooth finish.