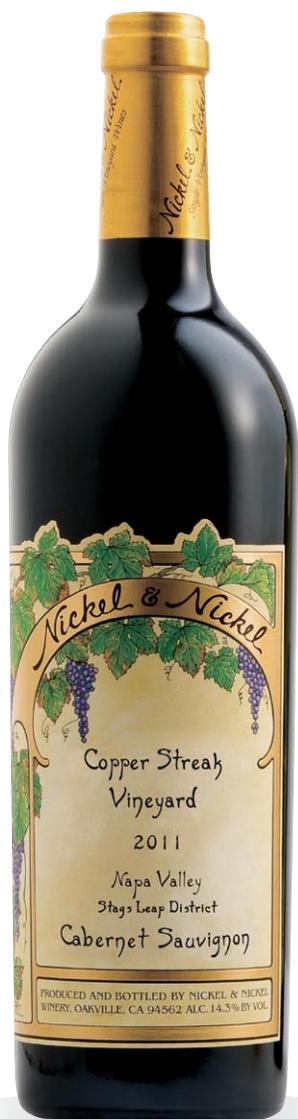




2011 COPPER STREAK VINEYARD

Cabernet Sauvignon, Stags Leap District, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Copper Streak Vineyard is located in a protected hollow at the base of the palisades in Stags Leap District. The soils are composed of Perkins gravelly loam mixed with red, copper-like streaks, which is how the vineyard got its name. The vines receive a western exposure and are of moderate size, yielding loose clusters with small berries. The climate in Stags Leap is very warm; however, mid afternoon breezes sweep in to cool things down, allowing for excellent ripening. Nickel & Nickel Copper Streak Cabernet is produced from seven of the vineyard's 30 acres.

HARVEST NOTES

In 2011, cloud cover in the winter and early spring delayed the year's growing season, but above average rainfall filled the reservoirs. Bloom this year occurred in June, which is the latest on record. This vineyard naturally sets a low yield, so small canopy adjustments were all that was required. A cool summer without any real heat spikes offered a slow ripening period, and the fruit looked beautiful on the vines. Without the extra heat, sugar levels remained low and we harvested the entire vineyard in mid-October when flavors and tannin development were at their peak.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2011 Copper Streak offers one of the richest textures of the vintage. Aromas of blackberry and cedar lend way to dark fruit flavors of berry and cassis which blend nicely with notes of chocolate, tobacco and herbs. The middle palate is dense with rich flavors, depth and complexity. This wine is beautifully focused now, yet will reward those with the patience to allow a few years in the cellar.

APPELLATION

Stags Leap District, Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING

French oak barrels
(48% new, 52% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

September 2014

HARVEST DATE

October 17, 2011

SKIN CONTACT

8 days

TIME

18 months

FIRST VINTAGE

2005