



2012 HILLSIDE SELECT®

NAPA VALLEY • STAGS LEAP DISTRICT

Hillside Select is a wine of a place, produced each vintage from carefully selected blocks of the hillside vineyards surrounding the winery. These grapes are small and deeply colored, with concentrated flavors enhanced by meticulous winemaking and extensive aging in French oak barrels. Hillside Select consistently expresses the voluptuous fruit, rich flavors and velvety texture that characterize grapes grown in Stags Leap District.

Release Date	September 1, 2016
Vineyard Location	100% Shafer’s Hillside Estate Vineyards in Stags Leap District including the vineyard blocks Sunspot, John’s Folly, Venado Illegal and Firebreak
2012 Growing Season	This was a classic Napa Valley vintage filled with warm, sunny days and perfect, chilly nights from spring through early autumn. The consistency of heat and coolness created a model growing season in which we harvested fruit at ideal ripeness brimming with rich color and flavor.
Varietal Composition	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Brix at Harvest	24.0° - 26.0°
Alcohol	15.5%
Cooperage	32 months in 100% new 60-gallon French oak barrels (Allier and Tronçais)
Food Affinities	Grilled or roast lamb, duck, beef and game; dishes featuring roasted red peppers or caramelized onions; seasonings of basil, mint or rosemary; aged, full-flavor cheeses

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

“This is a beauty, with crème de cassis notes intermixed with spring flowers, a touch of toasty oak, blackberries, blueberries and cassis, as well as licorice, vanillin and a full-bodied mouthfeel. At this stage, it is more voluptuous and opulent than the 2010, simply because that’s the hallmark style of the 2012. No doubt this is a 30- to 50-year wine if you want to cellar it properly and nibble on it over a long period of time, but it will be much more approachable in its youth than most Hillside Selects tend to be. This is, once again, a fabulous effort.”

—ROBERT M. PARKER, JR., THE WINE ADVOCATE

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

“The 2012 Hillside Select is a beautiful reflection of both its rugged vineyard site and an ideal vintage. Room-filling, energetic aromas of juicy, dark fruit and white flowers are completed by complex, youthful core-flavors of blackberry, cassis, and black cherry along with delicate herbs, graphite, and smoke. The wine is smooth and balanced as it moves through the mouth. The texture is seamless and light on its feet with classic Stags Leap District tannins that are ripe and ready for aging. There’s a lot of lush, vivid pleasure in the bottle now with more to come with a few years in a good cellar.” —ELIAS FERNANDEZ

SHAFER VINEYARDS

Shafer Vineyards is a 30,000 case winery in Napa Valley’s Stags Leap District managed by the father and son team of John and Doug Shafer. The Shafer family owns and farms 200 acres of vineyards, sources for Shafer’s Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Merlot, and Syrah.

