



2012 ABREU

Thorevilos

NAPA VALLEY, CA

PROPERTY



Thorevilos was one of David Abreu's favorite haunts as a child. There were no vines then. Just pine trees, redwoods, an old olive grove, and a rusted hog wire hanging from a tree -- "Hook Man" in Abreu family lore. These days it's the dirt that engrosses him. White tufa that turns to fine powder when you grind it beneath your foot. Tannish soil peppered with orange-brown pebbles. Streaks of dry, red earth.



Helena and Howell Mountain AVAs, Thorevilos doesn't belong to any sub-appellation. "It's an outlier," David says. When the AVA boundaries were being determined, he could have argued to have it included. "But it wouldn't have made any difference to the vineyard. Or the wine."

Sitting 800 feet above the valley floor, wedged between the St.



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Tucked into the eastern hills of St. Helena, Thorevilos gets the benefit of a long growing season - and it was no different in 2012. With most of the fruit harvested from Cappella and Madrona Ranch, we had only seen a trickle from Thorevilos.

The first major component of the 2012 Thorevilos was harvested on October 9 - a two thirds/one third blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. The Thorevilos property was planted with two opposing row directions, such that the Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon often ripen simultaneously. As we first saw in the 2006 vintage, this allows us to balance Merlot's lush flavors with the intense Cabernet Sauvignon fruit from this site. The resulting wines are both richly concentrated and bright with vibrant acidity.

The next pick took place on October 9. Consisting of three different selections of Cabernet Sauvignon accented by Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, it provided the core component of the final 2012 blend.

COMPOSITION:	Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, Merlot
PICK DATES:	October 9, 19, 21 & 22
PRODUCTION:	16 barrels
BOTTLED:	December 2014
RELEASE DATE:	March 2017
WINEMAKER:	Brad Grimes
PROPRIETOR:	David Abreu

From that point on, flavors at Thorevilos progressed swiftly - we picked all of the remaining fruit on October 21 and 22 to create three additional fermentations.

Ultimately, these five fermentations came together to create a wine - 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Cabernet Franc, 14% Petit Verdot and 6% Merlot - that will tell the story of this remarkable vintage long after we are gone.



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“Abreu's 2012 Thorevilos boasts remarkable depth, power and intensity. Distinctly ferrous, savory notes open up in the glass, followed by game, tobacco, smoke and bright red stone fruits. A huge, explosive wine, the Thorevilos is the most tannic and structured of Abreu's 2012s. Accordingly, it is likely to require the most time to come around. When it does, it will be magnificent. Grape Varieties: 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Cabernet Franc, 20% Petit Verdot. Drink 2022 – 2042.”

Antonio Galloni—Vinous Media

“A stunning opaque purple color is followed by a sensational, compelling bouquet of blueberry and blackberry liqueur intermixed with spring flowers, wet rocks, licorice, incense and a subtle hint of smoldering charcoal embers. This is a tour de force and true first-growth Napa wine that should age effortlessly for three decades or more. Drink 2013 – 2043.”

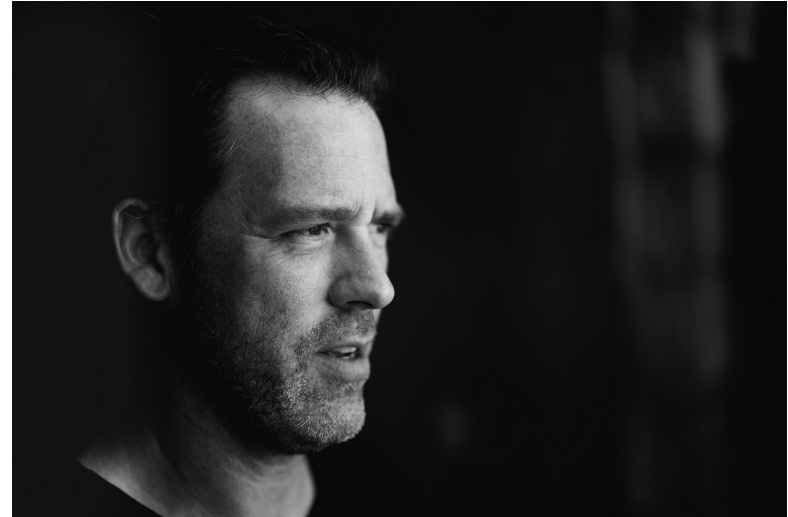
Robert Parker—The Wine Advocate



JOURNEY



Growing up, Napa Valley was David Abreu's playground as well as his classroom. Born into a family of ranchers, he spent the better part of his youth working in Napa's original vineyards. Over time, David's sense of what makes a site stand out—why one vineyard makes great wine and another's is just good—was sharpened beyond the ordinary. Eventually, intuition and experience led him to four exceptional vineyard properties: Madrona Ranch, Cappella, Las Posadas, and Thorevilos.



He planned and planted each one. And with an uncompromising—some might say insane—commitment to quality, he and his crew farm them to perfection.

Alongside Brad Grimes, a chef turned winemaker, he whittles one hundred barrels down to just 12,000 bottles of single-site Cabernet blends. You could call it passion beyond reason. And you may be right.

“When you work with a vineyard long enough, you get to know its personality. You know how to pull the best from it, no matter the vintage. That’s what it takes to make a great wine. A wine that might actually be around – to tell its own story – 100 years from now.”

David Abreu