



# RdV VINEYARDS

By Rutger de Vink

## DELAPLANE - VIRGINIA

Remarkable... World Class... A Revelation...



## FRIENDS AND FAMILY

### 2013

48% Cabernet Sauvignon

46% Merlot

6% Petit Verdot



RdV in Delaplane, Northern Virginia (**in the new Middleburg AVA**, although they don't use that as yet on the label) has gone from nowhere to somewhere at lightning speed. **Few have accomplished as much in so short a time.** Many in Virginia already speak about it as if it were one of the state's longstanding flagships.

This boutique (**total production is 2,000 cases**) is not just for show. It has superb accomplishments in such a short time. **I kept shaking my head at how good the wines were** from such young vines.

One reason for that is clearly dedication and fanaticism. Everything here reeks of **first-class** all the way and that isn't just for glitz, fancy tasting rooms and the like. **RdV obviously spent a lot of time trying to find the right plots of land** (in one place, poor rocky land with the vines on a slope) and the right soils (granitic; and they will be happy to give you the long version of that). They have **6.5 hectares in total**, with **Cabernet Sauvignon (40%), Merlot (40%), Petit Verdot (12%) and Cabernet Franc (8%)**.

**Many winemakers in Virginia need to learn the lessons taught here** and by Rutger's former employer, Jim Law of Linden, who actually IS one of the old-guard landmarks. (Rutger also worked in Bordeaux.) The new generation is certainly developing its own landmarks, though, and **it is hard to deny that RdV is one of the wineries in the forefront.**

