



# 2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

*Napa Valley*

**WINEMAKER-** *Kristy Melton*

**WINEMAKER EMERITUS-** *Ted Edwards*

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

2018 was a lovely vintage that helped us craft a very classically styled Cabernet Sauvignon. The nose opens with aromas of pomegranate, black cherry, cigar box and baking spices. The palate is lively and complex with flavors of wild blueberry, forest fruits, cocoa powder, espresso, and leather. The tannins are well integrated and supple making it lovely to enjoy now but it also has the ability to age for decades in the cellar.

## PRIMARY AVAs

**Calistoga:** The northernmost sub-region of Napa Valley, where vineyards take advantage of elevation changes, cool nights, and coastal influences to regulate ripening and retain acid. As compared to its counterparts to the south, the soils in Calistoga have a higher volcanic composition and contribute to the structure and concentration of flavor in the wines. These qualities make the region one of Napa Valley's most sought-after sub-regions for high quality Cabernet Sauvignon.

**Oakville:** Named for the groves of native oak trees that covered the area in the 1800s, Oakville is known for producing some of the most sought-after fruit in Napa Valley. The region is strongly impacted by cool nighttime temperatures and early morning fog, and the combination of the region's moderate climate and alluvial soils create ideal conditions for ripening Cabernet over an extended growing season.

## GROWING SEASON NOTES

Abundant winter rains helped refresh the groundwater and our reservoirs. Bud break was a little late, the vines responded to the water and moderate spring weather with plenty of growth. Good weather prevailed during bloom giving us an even fruit set. The summer was moderate, with plenty of sun during the day and marine influences during the night. The harvest was near ideal with average timing and crop size. The wines have great elements of fruit and earth with a well-integrated tannin structure that will help them age well for decades.

## COMPOSITION:

87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 2% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc

## AGE OF VINES & SOIL TYPE:

5-29 years; This blend is a great handprint of the Napa Valley. Valley floor vineyards are well-drained loam and clay loams, formed by alluvial deposits. The western mountain topsoil is shallow and acidic with low fertility, while the eastern mountain top soils are more volcanic, with poor fertility and incredible minerality.

## HARVEST DATES AND SUGAR:

Harvest started on 9/10 and ended on 10/26/2018 for all components. Sugar average roughly 24.0° Brix at harvest.

## AGED IN BARREL:

27 months

## BARRELS:

French oak, 40% new

## ALCOHOL:

14.4%

## PH:

3.7

## ACID:

0.59g/100ml

## LIFE SPAN IN PROPER CELLAR:

20 years +

## BOTTLED:

March 2021