



2018
RUTHERFORD CABERNET SAUVIGNON
Napa Valley

WINEMAKER - *Kristy Melton*

WINEMAKER EMERITUS - *Ted Edwards*

VINTAGE & WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Sourced from Bosché, Sycamore, and Red Barn Ranch, this wine displays all the classic notes of the Rutherford AVA. It is deep garnet in color and opens with aromas of brambly black fruits, cedar shavings, milk chocolate, graphite and forest floor. The palate is complex and richly textured with flavors of blackberry, coffee, cigar box, and cassis. The tannins are dusty yet well rounded and integrated making this wine lovely now with the ability to age gracefully for decades.

PRIMARY VINEYARDS

Bosché Vineyard—Rutherford (66%): Located west of Hwy. 29, on the famed Rutherford Bench, the Bosché vineyard has very deep gravelly soils. A seasonal creek crosses the vineyard which causes the water table to be high in the spring, providing water and nutrients for new shoot growth. As veraison approaches the water table drops, stressing the vines and intensifying the dark velvety fruit flavors.

Sycamore—Rutherford (23%): Located about 1.2 miles south of Bosché, right up against the Mayacamas Range, this vineyard has a rich clay loam. Sycamore Vineyard produces small berries reminiscent of mountain fruit berries, with intense extract of color and flavor of black currant and black berry with a forest floor complexity.

Red Barn Ranch—Rutherford (11%): Located in the heart of the Rutherford appellation, this vineyard is a mosaic of creek beds. The Napa River and Conn Creek have traversed through this vineyard in history past, leaving gravelly loams and ancient creek beds. The fruit is soft, with cherry, plum, rhubarb and arugula.

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 fairly 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:

83% Cabernet Sauvignon
13% Petit Verdot
4% Cabernet Franc

AGE OF VINES & SOIL TYPE:

9 - 27 years; gravelly clay loams formed by alluvial action

FERMENTATION:

3 day cold soak, fermentation in closed top stainless steel, 78°-88°F for 21 days on the skins

BARRELS:

Approximately 55% new French oak

AGED IN BARREL:

27 months

BOTTLING DATE:

April 2021

ALCOHOL:

14.4%

pH:

3.7

ACID:

5.8 g/L

LIFE SPAN IN PROPER CELLAR:

20 - 25 years +

HARVEST DATE & SUGAR:

September 10-October 5, 2018
at 23.9° Brix

CASES PRODUCED:

2,472