



2019

HELENA DAKOTA VINEYARD

100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Elevation 750 feet

KNIGHTS VALLEY

Sonoma County, California

KNIGHTS VALLEY

Knights Valley is a remote winegrowing region bridging Sonoma and Napa Counties. It's an untamed landscape defined by rugged mountains, steep hillsides, placid meadows and abundant wildlife. Even though this AVA has produced some of the world's greatest wines, it is still a mystery to most. Set along the flanks and foothills of Mount St. Helena and the Mayacamas Mountains, this rustic sanctuary possesses the sparse volcanic soils and ideal climate needed to produce elegant, profound and age-worthy Cabernet Sauvignons.

HELENA DAKOTA VINEYARD

This 12.4 acre vineyard runs southwest to northeast on the western side of Mount Saint Helena, with slopes of up to 15 degrees. Prevailing westerly winds pass over a large, cold pond and blow uphill, parallel to the rows of vines. These cooling breezes slow down the ripening of the grapes and result in wines that are packed with richness, complexity and balance. A pure mountain stream and rocky ridge separate this vineyard from our Helena Montana vineyard.

VIGNERON NOTES

A vintage marked from the outset by excessive winter rainfall, 2019 began with our soils holding abundant moisture and well equipped for the Knights Valley growing season. Cabernet Sauvignon budbreak occurred throughout early to mid-April, and the growing season proceeded with above average warmth, with heat spikes throughout July, August, and September. Harvest began in late September, and the resulting wines are concentrated and focused, with ample richness. The 2019 Helena Dakota is a tour de force of ripe black currant, blueberry compote, fresh pencil shavings, and subtle toasted cardamom aromatics. The palate is supple and rich, perfectly balancing this wine's firm structure, leading to a long finish of bittersweet dark baking chocolate, marked by fruit and iron minerality.

— Pierre Seillan, Vigneron

ACCLAIMS

99 Points – Erin Brooks, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, July 2022

97 Points – James Suckling, *JamesSuckling.com*, March 2022

96+ Points – Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, *The Wine Independent*, June 2022



TECHNICAL DATA

ELEVATION: 750 ft
SOIL: Red-brown silt loam
CELLAR AGING
POTENTIAL: 20 years

ALCOHOL: 14.5%
AGING: 13 months in 90% new
French oak barrels
HARVESTED: September 26

FLAVOR PROFILE: Violet blossom, blackberry
liquor, menthol, dried black
currants, toasted baking
spices and tobacco leaf