

CALADAN

2017 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET FRANC

Caladan represents the endless cycle of life, learning, and exploration.

Before Cabernet Sauvignon, there was Cabernet Franc. This elegant grape, long prized for its spicy aromatics and lithe energy, was in fact the genetic parent of Cabernet Sauvignon. Winemaker Christopher Carpenter captures the rich complexity of this distinguished variety with Caladan.

Caladan shows an elegant synthesis of Cabernet Franc and Merlot that reveals the utterly unique essence of four Napa Valley mountain appellations: Spring Mountain District, Howell Mountain, Diamond Mountain District, and Mount Veeder. The smaller proportion of Merlot bolsters the supporting structure and lends breadth to the wine's fresh, silken aromatics.

YVERDON VINEYARD

Serving as the foundation for Caladan's flavor profile, the Yverdon Vineyard on Spring Mountain reaches 2,000 feet in elevation, making it the coolest of our sites. This, combined with a geology that is dominated by sedimentary soils, creates a consistent floral and red fruit combination of flavors with a fine tannin structure. The culmination is an elegant expression of the mountains in Napa Valley.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2017 growing season began with a much-welcomed wet spring followed by a temperate summer. A mid-September heatwave was succeeded by a cooling period which lengthened hang-times leading to optimal fruit ripeness. The second week of October experienced strong winds which, combined with high temperatures and dry conditions, brought disaster in the form of wildfires. With great fortune, the entirety of the fruit for this wine was harvested before this devastating event.

APPELLATION CONTRIBUTION

64% Spring Mountain District – Yverdon Vineyard 27% Mount Veeder – Mt. Brave Vineyard
9% Howell Mountain – W.S. Keyes Vineyard

COMPOSITION

77% Cabernet Franc
23% Merlot

BARREL AGING

20 months in French
oak, 71% new

ALCOHOL

14.0% alcohol

PRODUCTION

639 cases

97 Points LISA PERROTTI-BROWN, ROBERT PARKER WINE ADVOCATE, OCTOBER 2019

97 Points JEB DUNNUCK, JEBDUNNUCK.COM, JANUARY 2020

