



## 2016 CRU CABERNET SAUVIGNON



**Composition:** 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot,  
5% Petit Verdot, 3% Malbec, 2% Cabernet Franc

**Harvest Date:** September 16 – October 5, 2016

**Barrel Age:** 18 months, 50% new, 100% French oak

**Cooperage:** Taransaud, "O", Demptos, Saury,  
Ermitage, Baron, Boutes

**Bottling Date:** May 7, 2018

**Alcohol:** 14.6%

**pH/TA:** 3.76 / 0.57

**Release Date:** Fall 2018

**Cases Produced:** 6050

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**THE VINEYARDS** Our Cru Cabernet is deeply rooted in the vineyards of St. Helena that surround our estate, with about 60% of the fruit coming from neighboring growers. Each year, we hand-select the balance of the blend from different parts of the valley to layer together a delicious, well-rounded and beautifully balanced wine that expresses the nuance and character of the Napa Valley. Fourteen vineyards play a role in the 2016 Cru bottling, including valley floor and mountain Cabernet and Malbec, valley floor Petit Verdot and Merlot, and bench land Cabernet Franc blocks, which all contribute to the juicy approachability and great structure of Cru Cabernet.

**THE VINTAGE** Mother Nature was generous, and the 2016 season throughout Napa Valley was darn-near perfect, with mild temperatures and zero heat spikes allowing the fruit to ripen slowly and evenly on the vine, wrapping up with a long, low-stress harvest. Don't be fooled by the uneventful vintage, though. The finished wines are spectacular, with explosive aromatics, intense fruit character and excellent structure. Incidentally, the 2016 Cru Cabernet is our first bottled with a TCA-free Portocork, eliminating the risk of cork-taint.

**THE WINE** Our 2016 Cru Cabernet Sauvignon's gorgeous aromatic profile opens with chocolate-covered blueberries and warm raspberry cobbler. Juicy blue and black fruits are joined by notes of violets and mocha as they spread across the palate, where great acidity and weight extend well into the back palate, finishing with fine-grained, silky tannin texture and a farewell kiss of cocoa.