



## 2016 AIDA ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON



**THE VINEYARD** Our Aida Estate Vineyard has confirmed our initial belief that this site would be the ideal location for growing Bordeaux varietals. Just north of the pinch in the hourglass of the Napa Valley, the cabernet sauvignon grapes from our Aida Estate provide the bold, structured backbone for this immensely enjoyable wine.

**THE VINTAGE** The 2016 growing season in Napa Valley was long, warm and nearly perfect. The mild Spring promoted early budburst while calm conditions ensured a full fruit set. The summer was warm but relatively uneventful in terms of heat spikes or rain events. August and September were moderate and allowed us to carefully plan out a long, extended, low stress harvest. The finished wines possess explosive aromatics, intense fruit flavors, and good structure. Not as firm and structured as 2013 but more so than 2014, the 2016 wines show excellent aging potential.

**THE WINE** Explosive aromas of black currants, deep black cherry, cocoa powder and crushed stone. With hints of blueberry, violet, and scorched earth on the palate, this powerful, concentrated St. Helena Cabernet has a velvety texture, structured acid backbone, firm tannin profile and long, drawn out finish. This baby leaves you salivating for another sip.

---

### CRITIC SCORES:

98pts - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *Wine Advocate*

The deep purple-black colored 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Aida Estate Vineyard comes strutting out of the glass like a total rock star, giving up flamboyant notes of warm cassis, blueberry compote and preserved plums with exciting sparks of kirsch, red roses, oolong tea, star anise and cigar box plus a touch of underbrush. Full-bodied, rich, bold and wonderfully decadent in the mouth, it fills the palate with black fruit preserves and red berry layers, supported by a firm, grainy line and finishing very long.

96pts - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*

A powerful, explosive wine, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Aida Estate possesses tremendous intensity in all of its dimensions. Super-ripe black cherry, plum, bittersweet chocolate, scorched earth, leather, licorice and menthol all run through this potent, inky Cabernet Sauvignon. The tannins are present and quite potent, but also very nicely integrated. The Aida is mostly Clone 337 Cabernet, with dollops of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot.