



2016 29 ESTATE CABERNET FRANC



Composition: 95% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon

Harvest Date: September 30, 2016

Barrel Age: 20 months, 75% new, 100% French Oak

Cooperage: St. Martin, Taransaud, Artisan, Ermitage

Bottling Date: June 11, 2018

Alcohol: 14.7%

pH/TA: 3.76 / 0.54

Release Date: Fall 2019

Cases Produced: 225

THE VINEYARD The 29 Estate Vineyard sits on a hillside just at the “pinch” of Napa Valley’s hourglass shape. Planted in 2000, our small cabernet franc block lies on a northwest-facing slope at the southern edge of the 29 Estate—providing the gorgeous vineyard view from the winery’s terrace. A tree line provides afternoon shade in this stressed, rocky block that has incredible drainage, producing deeply concentrated fruit at harvest time.

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 Deep red cherry, potpourri, fresh tobacco leaf and ripe plum on the nose. Dried red and black fruits, milk chocolate, wet slate, with hints of lavender upon entry. Silky texture throughout with earth tones, bright acidity and a long, mouth watering finish. Seamless, focused and pure, this Cabernet Franc is enjoyable upon release and can also lay down for 15+ years.