



2017 29 ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Composition: 98% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Petit Verdot

Harvest Dates: October 4, 2017

Barrel Age: 20 months, 80% new, 100% French Oak

Cooperage: Taransaud, Demptos, Ermitage, Baron, Sylvain, Saury

Bottling Date: June 5, 2019

Alcohol: 14.8%

pH/TA: 3.78 / 0.57

Release Date: Fall 2020

Cases Produced: 439

THE VINEYARD Our 29 Estate Vineyard sits on a hillside just at the “pinch” of Napa Valley’s hourglass shape. Excellent airflow provides natural frost protection, while the fertile clay loam soils encourage deeply rooted vines, yielding powerfully concentrated cabernet sauvignon tempered by markedly floral, velvet elegance and explosive aromatic.

THE VINTAGE The winter of 2016 / 2017 was the wettest in many years, causing the Napa River to reach flood levels and some vineyards to become temporary lakes. By the time of bud break in the early Spring, some parts of Napa Valley had reached over 50” of rain. The Spring of 2017 was beautiful and moderate followed by a freak hail storm in mid-June which caused some damage to mostly mountain vineyards. Veraison was about a week late, but an exceptionally hot August quickened the ripening curve. During the last week of August some areas reached as high as 115F. Another heat spike came during the first week of September, which kicked the Cabernet harvest into gear for most of the early ripening sites. The evening of October 8th was one of the windiest, driest on record resulting in unprecedented wildfires that raged in the hills and into the fringes of the valley floor. Thankfully, all of Vineyard 29’s estate blocks had been harvested already.

THE WINE Black cassis, violet, classic dark chocolate with hints of spearmint and sweet cocoa. A combination of blocks 3, 4, South 6, South 7, and South 8, the 2017 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon represents the relatively earlier ripening blocks from the estate. The later ripening blocks 1 and 2 were unfortunately not harvested prior to the October 8th wildfires, and did not make it into the blend. The resulting wine is a bit more tightly wound than previous vintages, and will only improve with time and age. But true to this tremendous vineyard, this wine is concentrated and polished with rich velvety texture. It’s classic firm tannin profile provides structure and endless aging potential.