



2018 CRU CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Harvest Dates: September 18 – October 25, 2018

Barrel Age: 18 months in 50% new Oak, 100% French Oak

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

Blend: 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot,
4% Petite Verdot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec

Bottling Date: May 20, 2020

Alcohol: 14.6%

Release Date: Fall 2020

Cases Produced: 7535

Retail Price: \$75 - 750ml

THE VINEYARD 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 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 The 2018 growing season began with a mild, beautiful Spring which extended flowering and provided ideal conditions for berry set, thus yielding uniform grape clusters. Temperatures were warm and steady throughout the summer, with very few heat spikes or dry wind patterns which were quite impactful during the 2017 growing season. The 2018 harvest began approximately two weeks later than the previous few vintages and it continued until the end of October. There was a minor rain event on October 2nd and 3rd but it did not negatively impact grape quality. It simply provided a break in the harvest as we allowed for a few dry out days before resuming the harvest. This long, drawn out, bountiful harvest yielded beautiful, dense, concentrated wines with intense color and a unique freshness to them.

THE WINE The 2018 CRU Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon holds nothing back upon opening. Grilled meat, cocoa and Bing cherry perfume a beautifully expressive nose. Pulling from multiple vineyards throughout Napa Valley, this wine truly encompasses the incredible diversity that our valley has to offer. Firm tannins and structure house notes of cassis, plums, black peppercorns and fresh tobacco leaf. This wine finishes with a long, weighty finish that never loses its focus and remains pure throughout.