



## 2018 CRU CABERNET SAUVIGNON, ST. HELENA



**Harvest Dates:** September 20 – October 14, 2018

**Barrel Age:** 18 months in 60% new Oak, 100% French Oak

**Cooperage:** Taransaud, Saury, Baron, Ermitage

**Blend:** 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc,  
3% Malbec, 1% Merlot, 1% Petite Verdot

**Bottling Date:** May 13, 2020

**Alcohol:** 14.6%

**Release Date:** Fall 2020

**Cases Produced:** 147

**Retail Price:** \$95 ~ 750ml

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**THE VINEYARD** Our CRU Cabernet Sauvignon, St. Helena is primarily sourced from our Railroad Estate Vineyard in St. Helena along with blending components from other St. Helena vineyards as well as a small amount of Malbec from Mt. Veeder, which we layer together for a delicious, well-rounded and beautifully balanced wine that expresses the nuance and character of their respective sites. All the vineyards play a role in this uniquely focused CRU bottling, contributing to the juicy approachability and great structure that our CRU Cabernet Sauvignons are known for.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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** Deep purple and impenetrable in color, the 2018 CRU St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon opens seductively to reveal crushed stone, black currant and dark black fruits. Exhibiting an elegant power that we love so much about St. Helena, this wine exudes richness and mouthfeel while still maintaining freshness and finesse. On the palate, cassis, scorched earth and creosol give way to secondary notes of black licorice, cardamon and espresso. Firm tannins encase this wine and lead to a long, luxurious finish.