



2022 CRU CABERNET SAUVIGNON, ST. HELENA



Harvest Dates: September 7 – September 14, 2022

Barrel Age: 18 months in 65% new oak, 100% French oak

Cooperage: Taransaud, Baron, Ermitage, Saury

Blend: 96% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Petite Verdot

Bottling Date: April 25, 2024

Alcohol: 14.8%

pH/TA: 3.62 / 0.59

Cases Produced: 246

THE VINEYARD Our CRU St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon is sourced primarily from block 2 at our Aida Estate Vineyard in northern St. Helena. We also use blending components from two other vineyards just to the south, as well as a small amount of Petit Verdot from Rutherford. The resulting blend showcases the powerful, structured **black** fruit profile that the St. Helena appellation is known for. Each vineyard plays 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 2022 growing season began in early March following a few wet winter months, which set the stage for an excellent bud-break. Timing was in-line with the five-year average, and warmer temperatures during the last week of February helped to push smooth development across the valley. April was a bit cooler than average, and some vineyards had to be protected from potential frost damage, but things warmed up in May providing adequate conditions for bloom and fruit set. The summer months of the growing season were remarkably consistent with warm days and cool nights—a perfect diurnal weather pattern for flavor development and bright acidity. During Labor Day weekend, an unprecedented period of triple digit highs shocked the valley—nine days straight of triple digits. Several vineyards were harvested during or soon after the heat wave while others held strong into the first two weeks of October, when the last of the fruit made its way to the winery. Much of the late ripening fruit came from the Rutherford and Oakville areas.

THE WINE The 2022 CRU St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon is a full-bodied, powerful wine with lushness and concentration throughout. Aromas of violets and lavender along with black currants and Bing cherries on the nose. Upon entry, the ripe black fruit profile is supported by fresh acidity and balanced tannins. This wine is packed full of richness and weight while remaining extremely drinkable and pleasurable. A true show stopper that can be laid down for well over a decade but one might ask why not enjoy it sooner?