



2023 CRU CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Harvest Dates: September 28 – November 5, 2023

Barrel Age: 18 months, 50% new, 100% French oak

Cooperage: Taransaud, Ermitage, Quintessance, Demptos, Saury, Baron, Boutes, Cadus

Blend: 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec, 1% Petite Sirah

Bottling Date: April 22, 2025

Release Date: October 1, 2025

Cases Produced: 4,533

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 Napa Valley saw approximately 40” of rainfall over the winter of 2022/2023. The 2023 grape growing season began two weeks later than the five year average as a result of the cooler and wetter than average winter and early spring. The vines had an ample amount of water without being oversaturated, shoot growth was steady, flowering and fruit set were also two weeks later than usual, and veraison did not take place in most vineyards until mid-August. Growers and winemakers, at that time, knew that they were in for a long, late harvest. Patience was the name of the game for the 2023 vintage. Early ripening varietals such as Sauvignon Blanc were mostly picked in early to mid-September (as opposed to late August) and the Cabernet harvest lasted until November 10th, a record for Vineyard 29! Mother Nature was extremely generous in 2023 as the weather stayed moderate and the sun kept shining, thus allowing the vines to slowly ripen their clusters. The yields were bountiful and the wines are extremely dark in color (reds), full of aromatics, opulent, rich and juicy. There is amazing acid structure and fully developed tannins across the board for the red varietals. The whites are fresh and delicious as well. The 2023 vintage will go down as one of the greatest, most unique vintages in quite some time.

THE WINE From the very first swirl, the 2023 CRU Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon draws you in with enticing aromas of Bing cherry, ripe red plum, and black cassis, framed by whispers of lavender, dried mountain sage, and mocha. On the palate, it's all about seamless richness and refined power—lush layers of blackberry, chocolate covered espresso bean, and warm baking spices glide effortlessly across a supple frame of fine-grained tannins and structured acidity. The finish is long, smooth, and sophisticated, leaving a lasting impression of dark fruit, integrated French oak, and earth-driven elegance. Ready to impress now or evolve beautifully in the cellar for well over a decade.