



2015 District Collection St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon



TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: St. Helena, Napa Valley

VARIETAL: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

ALCOHOL: 15%

pH: 3.79

TA: 5.8 g/L

FERMENTATION: 19-20 months in 100% French Oak, 70% new

IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes for the St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon were sourced from two main vineyards located on the West side of St. Helena. These vineyards are located on gravelly alluvial fan soil with excellent drainage, an essential component in high quality fruit development. The vines are less vigorous in this area of the Napa Valley, producing smaller berries and lower yields, for more concentrated, intense wines with good tannin structure. The wine is produced to showcase the terroir and distinct flavor characteristics of our cherished vineyards.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

The 2015 growing season in the Napa Valley experienced unseasonably warm temperatures early on, which resulted in early bud break and bloom. Colder temperatures later in the season caused uneven fruit set and resulted in a smaller crop than previous average yields. Winemakers and vineyard crews worked diligently to pick and sort the best berries. While drought was still a concern for most of California, Napa Valley received 75% of normal rainfall for the water year.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

A mix of 40% clone 4 and 60% clone 7, the grapes were fermented on the skins for an average of 48 days. After extended maceration and fermentation, the wine was gently pressed, racked and aged for 19-20 months in 100% French oak barrels, with 70% in new oak from Baron, Taransaud and Ermitage coopers. Tightly grained French oak barrels impart their oak to wines slowly for a consistent, well-rounded aging process while yielding subtle oak influences to the Cabernet Sauvignon.

WINE PROFILE

Our 2015 St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon opens with a deep garnet-purple color in the glass and savory aromas of smoked bacon, crème de cassis and a touch of earth. Enticing flavors of cinnamon stick, cloves and dried flowers lead to a velvety, full-bodied mouth feel. A well balanced wine with plenty of expressive, subtle flavor layers and a long, earthy finish.