

Three Victorians

ST. HELENA of NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

~ 2020 ~

THE VINTAGE

2020 kicked off with ideal growing conditions. Mild temperatures led to evenly developed clusters and an early budbreak was followed by a warm to hot summer. Low winter rains resulted in smaller berries with concentrated flavors. Harvest began in early August with normal yields and exceptional fruit quality.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

The grapes for this Cabernet Sauvignon were harvested on September 25 and October 4 from two valley floor vineyards in St. Helena. The first vineyard is planted on the western side of St. Helena on very gravelly soils in one of the warmest spots in the appellation. The second vineyard is from our estate vineyard, Founder's Ranch, which is planted in the center of the AVA on clay loam soils. The grapes went through extended maceration and were on skins for an average of 50 days. The wine was aged for a total of 18 months in a combination of new French oak from Demptos and Taransaud with the balance in once and twice used barrels before being bottled on July 7, 2022 unfined and unfiltered.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Fresh aromas of blackcurrants, blackberry, boysenberry and baking spice greet the nose. Continuing through to the full-bodied palate, intense and luscious flavors of raspberry, plum and chocolate are accented by notes of wood and tobacco. Beautifully textured, the finish is elegant and smooth.

TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: St. Helena, Napa Valley VARIETALS: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon AGING: 18 months in 66% new French oak

ALCOHOL: 15%

PH: 3.69 TA: 5.8 g/L