

2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON – IRON SLOPES – DRY CREEK VALLEY



HISTORY

This high elevation Cabernet Sauvignon was inspired by our decades of working with Bordeaux varietals planted in the different districts and vineyards within Dry Creek Valley. Our family winery has always sought to match the best varietal to the vineyard for impeccably balanced and flavorful grapes. This exquisite Cabernet Sauvignon showcases some of the more extreme growing sites that lie on the western hillsides of Dry Creek Valley. The undulating nature of the terrain provides grapes that are beautifully ripened and lead to a wine that is silky, textured and complex.

GROWING SEASON

The 2017 growing season started off with record-setting rainfalls that were much appreciated after almost five years of drought. As flowering started, foggy and windy days, as well as unusual heat spikes made for an eclectic mix of conditions. An extreme heat wave at the end of August through the first few days of September set off a fast-paced early stretch of the harvest. At the time of the wildfires in October, nearly all of our lots had already been harvested. Despite the unusual cards that nature dealt, the 2017 vintage shows excellent concentration of flavors and outstanding varietal quality.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Juicy aromas of boysenberry, cherry pie and plum sauce come forward initially. Additional airing reveals notes of allspice, espresso and a hint of vanilla. The palate is bold and luxurious with dark fruit flavors of black cherry, blackberry and black current. The finish lingers with notes of dried sage, dried thyme, black pepper and white pepper. Structured tannins frame this full-bodied and rich expression of high elevation Cabernet Sauvignon.

RELEASE DATE	April 2020
BLEND	95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Malbec
APPELLATION	Dry Creek Valley
HARVEST DATES	September 16 - October 13, 2017
ALCOHOL	14.2%
FERMENTATION	12 - 17 days in fermenters at 82 - 88°F; pumped over twice daily.
BARREL AGING	20 months in French and American oak; 31% new oak
BRIX	Average 25.1
PH	3.67
TA	6.2g/L
SOILS	Rocky & iron rich
VINE AGE	7 - 27 years
YIELDS	3.2 tons per acre

