

2018 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

Following a long growing season characterized by cooler than normal temperatures throughout the spring and summer, the 2018 harvest started 5–8 days later than the past several years. The milder temperatures afforded the luxury of a longer hang time for the grapes, allowing them to fully mature while retaining a high level of acidity. Overall, the harvest was plentiful with some vineyards producing higher than average quantities. The season ended with the ideal combination of warm days and cooler nights which enabled the high quality of grapes to thrive while developing complexity and nuance.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Juicy aromas of boysenberry, black currant and spiced plum come forward initially. Additional airing reveals notes of coriander, nutmeg and fine leather. The palate is bold and luxurious with dark fruit flavors of black cherry, black currant and cranberry. The finish lingers with notes of dried oregano, dried thyme and mocha. Chewy tannins frame this full-bodied and rich expression of high-elevation Cabernet Sauvignon.

RELEASE DATE	April 2021
BLEND	97% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Malbec
APPELLATION	Dry Creek Valley
HARVEST DATES	October 12–25, 2018
ALCOHOL	13.8%
FERMENTATION	12–16 days in fermenters at 82–88°F; pumped over twice daily.
BARREL AGING	20 months in French and Hungarian oak; 40% new oak
BRIX	Average 24.4
PH	3.59
TA	6.3g/L
SOILS	Rocky, iron-rich
VINE AGE	8–28 years
YIELDS	3–4 tons per acre

