



2019 VIP 5-BARREL CUVÉE – CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Dry Creek Valley



HISTORY

Our VIP Selection 5-Barrel Cuvée represents the most authentic form of small-lot winemaking at Dry Creek Vineyard. Since the first vintage in 2013, this exquisite blend has exemplified our family winery's passion for the noble Bordeaux varietals and the art of blending. Every detail of this cuvée is carefully crafted, from the impeccable vineyard management to the hand punchdowns in the cellar for powerful, yet elegant flavors. The wine is aged in barrels selected for our premier Bordeaux-style wines, which leads to richer color and intensity. The resulting Dry Creek Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is rich and full-bodied with robust tannins and purity of fruit.

GROWING SEASON

Overall, 2019 was a mild growing season with a later start to the summer. This seasonal shift led to a longer hang time, which allowed for even ripening and full berry development, while retaining natural acidity. Harvest started about one week later than average compared to the last handful of vintages, and the mild growing conditions led to a very long season — fruit was being harvested for nearly 70 days! This extended season allowed us to pick each vineyard block at an ideal level of ripeness to produce balanced, flavorful wines with complexity and nuance.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

This exquisite wine begins with luxurious aromas of black currant, black cherry and blueberry. Several minutes of airing reveal intense characteristics of coriander, white pepper and mocha. The palate is full and rich with brambleberry and plum, as well as hints of black pepper, dried thyme, bay leaf and black olive. The well-structured complexity and vibrant, pure flavors last from start to finish with sturdy tannins that will soften over time.

BLEND

81% Cabernet Sauvignon
9% Merlot
8% Malbec
2% Cabernet Franc

FERMENTATION

11–19 days in fermenters at 82–88°F;
pumped over twice daily

BARREL AGING

20 months in French oak; 47% new oak

ALCOHOL | 14.5%

BRIX | 26.2

PH | 3.72

TA | 6.3 g/L

HARVEST DATES

October 4–24, 2019

VINE AGE | 17–39 years

SOILS

Rocky, well-drained

YIELDS

4–5 tons per acre