



2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY

<i>Release Date</i>	September, 2019
<i>Production</i>	36 Barrels
<i>Appellation</i>	Napa Valley: St. Helena, Rutherford, Oakville, Coombsville & Pope Valley
<i>Varietal Composition</i>	86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot & 5% Malbec
<i>Winemaking Team</i>	Seana and Justin Hunnicutt Stephens, Proprietors Kirk P. Venge, Winemaker
<i>Cooperage</i>	Aged for 22 months in 100% French oak, 50% new
<i>Tasting Notes</i>	<p>What distinguishes Cabernet Sauvignon as the dominant varietal in Napa is its ability to take on distinct and diverse characteristics based on subtle variations in soil, temperature, light and moisture. This is especially apparent to us as we sit around the blending table, tasting the individual lots that will be blended to become our flagship Cabernet. Many vineyards that we work with are a stone's throw away from one another, however each site presents a unique personality and each vintage a new satisfying puzzle to decipher</p> <p>2017 will always be defined by the fires that began in Napa and Sonoma in the midst of harvest on October 8th, 2017. The winery and our team were thankfully spared from any direct damage to property and homes; however three of our vineyard sites had yet to be picked in the affected areas. Once picked and fermentation began, we assessed the resulting wines from those sites and while an unfortunate loss, it was an easy decision to make to declassify and remove them from consideration. Happily we're working on a little side project with our friends at Old Trestle Distillery to turn those lots into some top shelf brandy, so hopefully we'll have something fun to share around 2024! Beyond the fires, 2017 was an extremely rewarding year for winemaking. From increased rainfall in the winter to a dramatic heat spike in August, the weather brought challenges, but careful and attentive farming was rewarded with wonderful results in the cellar. Though we were sad to lose the potential from the three vineyards that were smoke tainted, once those lots were set aside, the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon was a joy to produce.</p> <p>Lovely aromas of dark cherry, plum, wild blackberry and dried vanilla rise from the glass and compliment the abundant red and black fruit notes which develop immediately on the palate. The fruit lingers beyond the mid-palate to the finish where it is met by fine grain tannins and supple spice notes. This wine can be enjoyed thoroughly over the next 3-5 years with a long decant or thoughtful pairing and will continue to evolve to a vintage peak within 7-10 years.</p>
<i>Other Hunnicutt Wines</i>	HUNNICUTT 2017 Zinfandel HUNNICUTT 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon, 9-3-5
