



2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON
RUTHERFORD AVA
BRINKMAN BLOCK

<i>Release Date</i>	April, 2020
<i>Production</i>	11 Barrels
<i>Appellation</i>	Rutherford AVA – Beckstoffer Georges III
<i>Varietal Composition</i>	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
<i>Winemaking Team</i>	Seana and Justin Hunnicutt Stephens, Proprietors Kirk P. Venge, Winemaker
<i>Cooperage</i>	Aged for 28 months in 100% French oak, 80% new
<i>Tasting Notes</i>	<p>We began sourcing from the Beckstoffer Georges III vineyard in 2005 and it's amazing to think back now on how much has changed since the first time we walked our block. As we began to learn the vineyard, it became clear that we had a site deserving of a singular focus, so with the 2008 vintage we elected to keep a small amount aside and unblended. From that came our first ever single vineyard 100% Cabernet Sauvignon production which we simply called the Rutherford AVA. This began our AVA Series and with the 2013 vintage we rechristened this wine Brinkman Block after and in honor of my mom, Christina Brinkman Stephens.</p> <p>2017 will always be defined by the fires that began in Napa on October 8th. Thankfully the winery and our team were 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 we were able to bring that fruit in and fermentation began, we assessed the resulting wine and while an unfortunate loss, it was an easy decision to make to declassify and remove those lots from consideration. Happily, we're now using them on a little side project with our friends at Old Trestle Distillery in Truckee to turn tainted wine into some top shelf brandy, hopefully we'll have something fun to share around 2024!</p> <p>Looking past the fires, for the lots that came in before the smoke, 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. The 2017 Brinkman Block shows a stunning purity of fruit and an open, engaging palate impression that will allow this wine to be enjoyed both now in its youthful state and over the next 5-7 years.</p>
<i>Other Hunnicutt Wines</i>	HUNNICUTT 2018 Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast HUNNICUTT 2017 Fearless Red
