



2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WAYSIDE

ST. HELENA AVA

- Release Date:** February, 2021
- Production:** 7 Barrels
- Varietal:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Vineyards:** Lewelling Vineyard,
St. Helena AVA, Napa Valley
- Winemaking:** Justin and Seana Stephens, Proprietors
Kirk Venge, Winemaker
- Cooperage:** Aged for 28 months in 100% French oak, 80% new.
- Vintage Notes:** As vintages go, 2018 was joyously tranquil. From the start in early February and through the mild weather of the Spring flowering season, nature cooperated in exactly the ways desired for an ideal grape set. As summer progressed, we saw relatively few heat spikes and slow, but steady progress in the vineyards which lead to extended hang times. While calm, 2018 was a marathon for winemaking as it required extended focus on the needs of each individual vineyard site well beyond the average year. Happily, this attention was rewarded with beautiful wines across our portfolio.
- Vineyard Notes:** The Lewelling vineyard is one of the oldest continuously owned family vineyards in the Napa Valley, first planted by John Lewelling in 1864 and farmed by his great-great-grandson Doug Wight today. The 28-acre vineyard is located at the base of the Mayacamas range in St. Helena on an alluvial fan built by millennia of deposits which flowed down from the foothills above. The fruit that develops from these vines benefits greatly from this diverse soil as well as the even afternoon temperatures on this west side vineyard, allowing us to produce wines of great depth and elegance.
- It is also coincidentally right across the road from where Justin lived when he first moved back to the valley shortly before starting HUNNICUTT. Thus, we have dubbed this site Wayside.
- Tasting Notes:** Our 2018 Wayside begins with aromas of blueberry compote, crème de cassis and huckleberry mingling alongside subtle violet, cedar cigar box and cocoa dust notes. The palate is precisely layer black cherry and plum reduction joined in the mid by hints of mocha, sage and graphite that marry with the fine tannins to extend the flavors for several minutes.
- Aging Advice:** 2018 will be a superb vintage to lay down for at least 7-10 years with definite potential to go well beyond that. While young, enjoy thoughtfully with a long decant or over two to three days.