



2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

HAWORTH

RUTHERFORD AVA

- Release Date:** April, 2022
- Production:** 6 Barrels
- Varietal:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Vineyards:** Walther River Block Vineyard,
Rutherford 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:** Located just below Lake Hennessey at the base of Pritchard Hill, the 7.5-acre Walther River Block vineyard is planted in the now dry riverbed soils of what was once a tributary of the Napa River. This combined with centuries of erosion from the hillside above gives the vineyard a unique soil composition that promotes both the lush and full-bodied fruit expression common to the valley floor alongside a densely layered and textured palate impression common to mountain fruit.
- Owned by longtime family friend Roger Walther, we have had the privilege of farming this vineyard together with Roger since 2000. Roger is also the Godfather to Justin's younger brother, Adam Haworth Stephens, so it is in his honor that we've dubbed this wine Haworth.
- Tasting Notes:** The aromatics of the 2018 Haworth are dense and dark, showcasing lush notes of black cherry, blackberry compote, earl grey tea, clove, and a touch of cocoa. The palate echoes this beautifully, leading with a dark cherry core which extends through the weighty midpalate, joined by subtle notes of tobacco and crushed granite to a long generous finish which clearly evokes the vineyards distinct rocky terroir.
- Aging Advice:** 2018 is a superb vintage to lay down and this wine will be a stellar exemplar of that potential. It has lovely polish, so can certainly be enjoyed in youth with a long decant, however the aging potential is great enough that we would heartily recommend aging for 7-10 years to capture the wines full expression.