



2019 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

HAWORTH

RUTHERFORD AVA

- Release Date:** April, 2023
- Production:** 5 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:** 2019 as a vintage was full of unique and unexpected character. A cool spring and late rains well into May had us on edge as we nervously kept vigil against frost and shatter in the vineyards, fearing a repeat of the unseasonably cool 2011 vintage. Thankfully, summer arrived with its desired warmth, but with the harshest heat held at bay, allowing for a long, warm, and even ripening season. With the weather as calm as it was, the harvest was as long or as short as the grapes demanded, allowing for optimum ripeness and steady, even fermentation. No drama equaled superb wines.
- 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 2019 Haworth is a clear product of its environment, the nose showcases dense blackberry compote and current, interwoven with hints of olive, earl grey tea and allspice. The palate is bright with immediate sour cherry and blackberry notes which are then greeted by a subtle hint of graphite and fine tannins that are a hallmark of the rocky terroir of this vineyard. The tannins melt alongside the fruit born acidity for a layered and mouthwatering finish.
- Aging Advice:** With the purity of fruit on display in youth, it is certainly tempting to dive right in, and we do expect to enjoy this wine early and often. That said, there is strong aging potential for this and in fact all of our 2019 vintage wines, as the ample fruit and balanced structural cues will allow for steady evolution over the next 7-10 years.