



2021 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

EASTLINE

- Release Date:** April, 2024
- Production:** 8 Barrels
- Varietal:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Vineyards:** Beckstoffer Georges III-Rutherford, Oakville 88, Moose Valley Vineyard–St. Helena
Calla Lily-Pope Valley
- Winemaking:** Justin and Seana Stephens, Proprietors
Kirk Venge, Winemaker
- Cooperage:** Aged for 22 months in 100% French oak, 50% new.
- Vintage Notes:** The 2021 vintage will be remembered as a dry year for the valley, resulting in below average yields. However, the overall quality of the vintage is superb thanks to those smaller berries bringing an increased concentration of both fruit and structure. Early spring saw periods of unseasonable warmth alongside the occasional cool night which did create some frost concerns, but thankfully a little vigilance in the vineyards kept any damage at bay. Summer and early fall provided heat that cycled predictably between warm days and cool nights which allowed for a very smooth and orderly harvest about 1-2 weeks earlier than average.
- Wine Notes:** 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, sunlight, and moisture. This is especially apparent to us as we sit around the blending table, tasting the individual lots that will be combined to produce our main production Napa Cabernet blend. Some of the vineyards that we work with are a stone's throw away from one another, however each site presents a unique personality, and each vintage is a new satisfying puzzle to decipher. First blended from the 2019 vintage, the Eastline bottling is composed solely of our eastern most cabernet vineyards to highlight the special confluence of factors that create this welcoming and fruit focused expression of Cabernet Sauvignon.
- Tasting Notes:** The 2021 Eastline is typified by its ripe yet focused red fruit core, which rises from the glass and echoes long on the palate. An enticing aroma of triple berry compote is joined by hints of anise, sandalwood and coffee followed on the palate by red plum and black cherry all framed by fresh tannins and juicy acidity.
- Aging Advice:** The 2021 vintage reminds us quite a bit of 2016, dry, but not drought conditions, was the name of the game in both years. With that in mind, at 8 years in bottle the 2016 vintage wines are now drinking beautifully and still heading towards their peak, so we feel confident that the 2021 vintage is likewise set to yield 10+ years of cellaring.