



2022 CABERNET SAUVIGNON
BRINKMAN BLOCK
Rutherford AVA

- Release Date:** April, 2025
- Production:** 14 Barrels
- Varietal:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Vineyards:** Beckstoffer Georges III Vineyard,
Rutherford AVA, Napa Valley
- Winemaking:** Justin and Seana Stephens, Proprietors
Kirk Venge, Winemaker
Andrew Bohi, Director of Operations
- Cooperage:** Aged for 28 months in 100% French oak, 80% new.
- Vintage Notes:** 2022 continued the relative dry conditions of the previous few years, but with some edges sanded down thanks to a smattering of winter rains. The spring and early summer were quite idyllic with moderate temperatures and a slow but steady ripening, which continued well into August. The season took a turn in September when we saw a spike in heat that lasted for 10 days and brought 110+ degree temperatures to the valley floor. This created demand for attention and intervention in the vineyards, but thanks to an unseasonable rain shortly after the heat spike, our sites were able to hang well into October and achieve optimal ripeness.
- Vineyard Notes:** This site was part of the original Rancho Caymus land grant and was gifted from founder George Yount to his granddaughter Elizabeth when she married Thomas Rutherford in 1864. It remained a highly successful vineyard site until Prohibition, when the land was then purchased by Georges de Latour in 1928 and became BV Ranch #3. There under the care of Andre Tchelistcheff it became one of the most celebrated vineyards in Napa Valley. This naturally drew quite a bit of attention to the site and in 1988 it was purchased by Andy Beckstoffer and dubbed Beckstoffer Georges III.
- We began working with this vineyard in 2005 and it has remained one of our most prized sources. Our block that we have dubbed Brinkman in honor of Justin's mother Christina Brinkman Stephens, lies on a small knoll to the west of Silverado Trail, which provides excellent drainage and ample western exposure. This allows for long, even ripening days which result in bold, balanced and amazingly consistent wines.
- Tasting Notes:** The 2022 vintage strikes forward with ripe and bold accents of red licorice, black currant jelly and fine-sanded cedar. The palate is rich, broad and vibrant with silky tannins framing a dramatic core of black cherry cordial, ground espresso and baking spices. Refreshing acidity carries the fruit driven palate to a long evolving finish.
- Aging Advice:** The warmth of the 2022 vintage yielded generous fruit-forward wines that are already drinking beautifully but we feel confident that the 2022 vintage will also gain nuance over 10+ years of cellaring.