



**2023 CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
***BRINKMAN BLOCK***  
***RUTHERFORD AVA***

- Release Date:*** April, 2026
- Production:*** 10 Barrels
- Varietal:*** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Vineyards:*** Beckstoffer Georges III 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:*** In 2023, the region experienced one of the longest growing seasons in several decades. A cool, wet spring delayed bud break and while summer temperatures did eventually show up in July, it was a steady mild heat that caused the fruit to ripen gradually. As a result, the valley began the harvest season approximately 3-4 weeks behind what would be considered a normal schedule. Thankfully, the weather was beautifully consistent throughout the fall, providing for extended hang times to achieve perfect ripeness and flavor development. This was the proverbial goldilocks vintage, allowing us to choose our moment with each site, resulting in stirring and memorable wines across our portfolio.
- Vineyard Notes:*** This site was part of the 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 just 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:*** On the nose, black cherry and blackberry compote fill the glass alongside hints of violet, Chinese five spice, anise, mocha and clove. The palate showcases generous black and blue fruit notes, that while opulent, are well framed by the wines structure leading to a finish of pleasantly rolling tannins, rich black fruit and oak driven spice.
- Aging Advice:*** The 2023 vintage is showing huge promise, with vibrancy and density of fruit on display. This wine can be enjoyed readily over the next 3-5 years with a vigorous decanting, though it will absolutely reward continued aging for 20+ years.