



## 2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Our 2017 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon combines fruit from Flora Springs' sustainably-farmed estate vineyards in Rutherford, St. Helena, Oakville and Napa Valley. The hand harvested grapes were cold-soaked for several days to extract flavor and color prior to fermentation. Several lots underwent extended maceration to refine and soften the tannins, and all lots were aged in a combination of French (70%) and American (30%) oak barrels for 18 months prior to blending.

This Cabernet invites you in with bold aromas of blackberry, blueberry and black raspberry and a lovely hint of toasty oak. The flavors echo the aromas, with added notes of vanilla, saffras, espresso and a hint of cedar. Bright acidity brings a nice tension to the wine, with elegant tannins bringing it to a long, satisfying finish. Grilled pork tenderloin with balsamic vinegar and olives would be a good fit for this Cabernet, as would braised lamb shanks or a hearty chickpea and spinach stew.

### ALL THE FACTS

**Appellation:** *Napa Valley*

**Varietal:** *100% Cabernet Sauvignon*

**Cases Produced:** *3,034*

**Aging:** *18 months in French (70%) and American (30%) oak barrels*

**Suggested Retail Price:** *\$50*

**Enjoyability:** *Enjoy now through 2029*

### ON THE VINE

2017 began with winter rain, and lots of it, enough to fill reservoirs, replenish groundwater and bring a five year drought in California to an end. Our spring weather was mild, and due to the abundance of water the vines experienced vigorous growth. We were vigilant about canopy management, going through our vineyards and removing excess leaves to ensure the developing grapes had adequate sunlight and air flow. With just a few summer heat spikes, it first appeared that harvest would proceed at a normal pace, but a heat wave over Labor Day weekend hastened picking during the first two weeks of September. Cooler temperatures arrived in mid-September, giving our red fruit extra time on the vine. Overall though, harvest was early in 2017; the last of Flora Springs' grapes were harvested on Saturday, October 7.