



# 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon

HOMMAGE, TENMA VINEYARD CALISTOGA, NAPA VALLEY

ENMA VINEYARD, ON AN ALLUVIAL FAN IN JERICHO CANYON IN northeastern Calistoga, produces Cabernet Sauvignon wines of deep color and intensity. While the Petit Verdot grown on Tenma vineyard provides inky color and mid-palate drive to this elegant estate blend.

## HARVEST NOTES

The mild winter combined with substantial rains in February and March gave the vines a vigorous start. The late falling spring rains along with cool temperatures in May, meant that fruit-set was reduced, naturally lowering the yield of fruit each vine produced. The weather started to warm up as spring moved into summer, providing our vineyards with the optimal climate to undergo veraison, where upon the grapes skins softened, natural grape acid declined, sugar was generated and the grape skins started to color. As harvest approached, the combination of warm days and cool nights ensured full physiological ripeness of the fruit both in terms of fruit flavor development and tannin maturity together with acidity retention so crucial for fine wine balance; however, because the peak daytime temperatures exceeded those in 2014, this vintage was one of the earliest in over a decade.

## WINEMAKER NOTES

Fruit from our Tenma Estate vineyard was harvested in the cool of the night, affording us the opportunity to achieve a natural prolonged cold soak period prior to the onset of fermentation. This practice allowed us to gently extract color and tannins from the grape skins during fermentation, while eliminating harsher seed tannin extraction in the new wine. Extended maceration on the skins following primary fermentation further refined the ripe tannins and helped to stabilize color. After pressing, malolactic conversion occurred in barrel, and the wine received racking during élevage to aid in natural clarification and to round out its structure. The final blend was assembled in tank in late May of 2017, ahead of its bottling in early July .

## TASTING NOTES

Our 2015 Hommage Cabernet reflects a beautiful dark purple in the glass. The aromatics deliver layer upon layer of complex aromas, from brooding dark fruits, blackberries, and a trace of briar to more subtle aromas of forest floor and cedar. On the palate, dark fruits open up to more cassis focused flavors, along with a touch of cocoa and hint of espresso beans. The tannins are powerful and persistent balancing the wine's graceful natural acidity and texture.

## TECHNICAL INFO

#### VARIETAL COMPOSITION

89% Cabernet Sauvignon 11% Petit Verdot

## VINEYARD

100% Tenma Vineyard Calistoga, Napa Valley

#### HARVEST DATES

October 1st - October 10th

## **FERMENTATION**

100% barrel fermented

## AGING

17 months in 70% new French oak

#### **BOTTLING DATE**

July 2017

# ALCOHOL

15.3%

## PRODUCTION

400 6-bottle cases