



CLOS PEGASE

NAPA VALLEY

2018

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

NAPA VALLEY

TENMA VINEYARD, on an alluvial fan in Jericho Canyon in northeastern Calistoga, produces Cabernet Sauvignon wines of deep color and intensity. The rocky terrain here is well-drained with a very sparse topsoil, which is a perfect combination for growing world-class Cabernet Sauvignon when combined with the climate of Napa Valley.

VINTAGE NOTES

After the dramatic end to the 2017 vintage, the 2018 harvest was a return to normal; although a “normal” we have not seen in years. Mild conditions throughout flowering meant fruit set was extended and successful, ultimately leading to high yields which slowed down ripening. The hot temperatures in July and August relented from September onwards. There were no late season heat spikes or serious harvest rain events, which meant the hang time of the grapes could be extended. The result was naturally balanced wines, which were lower in alcohol and retained good amounts of natural acidity. This was one of the longest harvests we had seen since 2011, starting on the 31st of August and ending on the 5th of November. The 2018 harvest can be summed up as a “Classic” Napa Valley vintage. Definitely a vintage to follow closely.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Each block was hand harvested individually and brought to the winery where the clusters were sorted again before being destemmed. Fifty percent of the grape clusters were crushed and fifty percent were left as whole berries during fermentation. The must was then allowed 2-4 days to cold soak, followed by a warm fermentation using a variety of different yeast strains. With two pump overs a day, the wine was pressed off the skins once it was dry. Wine was then sent to barrel to undergo malolactic fermentation. After fermentation was complete, wine was racked on more time and then allowed to rest in barrel for an additional 18 months in our caves. When the wine was ready, we gently filtered and bottled in early April, 2020.

TASTING NOTES

A deep opaque purple in the glass. Expressive aromas of cassis, antique wood, cigar box and blackcurrants. On the palate, this wine displays generous expressions of dark fruits and forest floor. It then transitions into more secondary characteristics such as graphite, wet clay and seasoned leather. The crisp tannins are nicely balanced by the ripe fruit which are in-turn kept fresh by the crisp acidity. This wine continues to evolve on the palate showing depth and complexity with a lengthy finish.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION *100% Cabernet Sauvignon* | APPELLATION *Napa Valley*

AGING *18 months in French oak, 35% new* | FERMENTATION *100% barrel fermented*

ALCOHOL *14.9%* | TA *5.7 g/100ml* | PH *3.88* | PRODUCTION *790 cases*

AGING POTENTIAL *10–20 years*