



Girard

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON HOWELL MOUNTAIN

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2018 vintage proved nearly ideal. Ample winter rains were followed by lots of spring and early summer sunshine. Bud break and flowering were slightly later than usual but coincided with ideal weather conditions for healthy fruit set. The mild summer was followed by an equally ideal fall; allowing fruit to ripen with ample flavor and complexity with moderate sugar levels. Fermentation temperatures were kept deliberately low to retain fresh fruit flavors and color extraction. Carefully selected French oak barrels rounded out the *elevage* (or barrel aging) process, ensuring a wine rich character and complexity.

VINEYARD NOTES

The fruit for the 2018 Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon was sourced from a vineyard high in the Howell Mountain AVA of Napa Valley where the high elevation exposes fruit to sunshine for longer days and warmer nights, while the well-draining volcanic soils encourage balanced, even ripening and powerful, bold tannins for an age-worthy wine.

TASTING NOTES

The nose reveals aromas of black fruit, coffee and cocoa powder enveloped in an array of dried herbs. The full-bodied palate is layered with plush flavors of black currant, and Boysenberry cobbler. The firm, yet ripe tannins expand on the palate and lead into a long finish, scented with hints of vanilla, baking spice and dried tobacco.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

APPELLATION Howell Mountain, Napa Valley | OAK AGING 20 months in French oak, 75% new

ALCOHOL 15.5% | pH 3.62 | TA 6.4 g/L | RS .2 g/L | PRODUCTION 195 cases