



Girard

NAPA VALLEY

2019 CHARBONO
CALISTOGA, NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE NOTES

The year started out with ample rainfall which kept the soils moist and cool into spring. Summer was marked by warm, even daytime temperatures with few extreme heat spikes. The opportune weather conditions continued into late summer and fall. The harvest was of average volume, if not slightly below average, and the fruit quality was exceptional; allowing us to craft wines with texture, structure, and finesse.

VINEYARD NOTES

The grapes for our inaugural release Charbono were sourced from the Cooke Ranch Vineyard located just a stone's throw from our Calistoga winery, at the corner of Dunaweal Lane and Highway 29. The head-trained, dry-farmed vines thrive in Calistoga's warm sunny days and brisk nighttime temperatures which help ripen grapes with modest sugar and tannin concentration and plenty of lively fruit character.

TASTING NOTES

Mineral aromas and dried herbs yield and blossom into aromas of fresh strawberry, raspberry and bramble fruit. Juicy acidity and hints of savory spice lend the wine an almost rustic authenticity and appeal. Moderate alcohol, energetic acidity and modest tannins lend the wine a balanced and lingering, though not overpowering finish

ABOUT THE WINE

Charbono is a grape variety which has taken root in New and Old World regions alike, under a handful of synonyms including Bonarda, Douce Noir and Corbeau. It's believed that Charbono/Corbeau originated in France's Savoie region, but its adaptability to a variety of climates helped it become a darling of the Napa Valley in the mid-20th Century. The grape seems to express voluminous fruit flavors, character and vibrancy while naturally moderating sugar levels (keeping potential alcohol in check). While Charbono may have fallen out of fashion on a large scale, small pockets of older vine plantings dot the Valley today. When our winemaking team was afforded a few tons of fruit from one such vineyard, we eagerly said "yes".

VARIETAL COMPOSITION 89% Charbono, 6% Zinfandel, 3% Pinot Noir, 2% Valdiguie

APPELLATION Calistoga, Napa Valley | **OAK AGING** 16 months in French oak, 35% new

ALCOHOL 13.5% | **pH** 3.65 | **TA** 5.8 g/L | **RESIDUAL SUGAR** .8 g/L | **PRODUCTION** 200 cases