

SWANSON

VINEYARDS

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE

After the dramatic end to the 2017 vintage, the 2018 vintage 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 slowing 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, lower in alcohol that retained good amounts of natural acidity. This was one of the longest harvests we've seen since 2011, starting on the 31st of August and ending on the 5th of November, and can be summed up as a "Classic" Napa Valley vintage. Definitely one to follow closely.

VINEYARD

Sourced from vineyards throughout Napa Valley and combining a selection of different clones of Cabernet Sauvignon. The aim was to craft a Cabernet Sauvignon wine from some of our most reliable vineyards, delivering unequalled quality and value.

WINEMAKING

Hand harvested in the early morning, the grapes were then delivered to the winery where they were hand sorted before being destemmed. Five days cold soak followed by a 14 day warm fermentation with two pump overs per day. The wine was pressed off and barreled down in 45% new French oak where it underwent natural malolactic fermentation. The wines then underwent 13 months élevage before they were blended. Wine was then lightly filtered before bottling.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Generous aromas of plums and cassis on the nose, with a touch of cedar that elegantly underlies the rich dark fruits on the nose. The wine is rich and full bodied on the palate, the acidity is supple, supporting the ripe plum, dark cherry fruit flavors. Alongside these you have hints of cacao, a touch of espresso bean and slight vanilla. The smooth tannins follow through to drive the finish, giving longevity to the palate.

COMPOSITION

94% Cabernet Sauvignon,
6% Petit Verdot

BARREL REGIME

45% New French oak

BOTTLING DATES

January 28-29, 2020

CASE PRODUCTION

2,000 cases (12 x 750mL)

