

PAUL HOBBS

2020 CABERNET SAUVIGNON BECKSTOFFER DR. CRANE VINEYARD NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Owner: Andy Beckstoffer
- Sourced from: c2, a5
- Clonal selection: 4, 337
- Rootstock: 110r
- Plant date: 1998
- Soils: Bale loam
- Exposure: 0-3% slope, full exposure
- Trellis and pruning: vertical shoot positioned (vsp), bilateral cordon
- Yield: 2.90 tons/acre

GROWING SEASON

A dry winter started the season with less than half the region's average rainfall leading to a mild spring and early season bud break. Summer began with relatively moderate temperatures resulting in exceptional phenolic development, allowing fruit to ripen and mature slowly on the vine. Consecutive heat spells coupled with a rare mid-August lightning storm accelerated the start of harvest two weeks earlier than average. All fruit was hand-harvested within seven weeks, and although challenging on many fronts, our highly skilled team persevered at every stage and excelled in their meticulous picking, sorting, and barrel selections. While some wines will not be produced as they did not meet our standards for quality, those that were are in very small quantities, ensuring the limited remaining bottlings showcase their full character with great energy, depth of flavor, and focus.

HARVEST

- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- Harvest date: September 23

WINEMAKING

- Hand-sorted while still cold from the field
- Fermented in small, closed-top stainless steel tanks with indigenous yeasts
- 5 day cold soak, 28 day total maceration
- Gentle pumpovers and délestage
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrel
- Aged 20 months in French oak barrels; 84% new
- Coopers: Darnajou, Taransaud, Baron, Leroi, Boutes, Oenowood, Marchive, Epocure, Vicard
- Varietal composition: 100% cabernet sauvignon
- Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered; June 2022

TASTING NOTES

Planted on gravelly loam soils on the west side of St. Helena, this distinctive cabernet reveals a rich garnet color and expressive layers of dark cherry, blueberry, clove, and tobacco leaf. The palate presents a superb structure with delicate fine-grained tannins that frame a core of dried fruits and kirsch, leading into the classic Dr. Crane Vineyard spice that intermingles with an intriguing graphite complexity, creating a lifted, long, and dusty finish.