

PAUL HOBBS

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON BECKSTOFFER DR. CRANE VINEYARD NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Owner: Andy Beckstoffer
- Sourced from: a5: 0.52 acres | c2: 3.40 acres
- Clonal selection: 337, 4
- Rootstock: 110r
- Plant date: 1998
- Soils: Bale loam
- Exposure: 0-3% slope, full exposure
- Trellis and pruning: vertical shoot positioned (vsp) | bilateral cordon
- Yield: 3.5 tons/acre

GROWING SEASON

After 2017 received record-breaking rainfall, 2018 brought another winter with wet weather that continued through February. By early spring, dry and sunny conditions allowed for an ideal fruit set. Mild summer temperatures with no prolonged heat spikes provided an abundant crop, leading us to make up to four yield thinning passes in our vineyards. The moderate temperatures extended into fall, resulting in exceptional phenolic development allowing fruit to slowly mature on the vine. Fruit was harvested a full two weeks later than average, delivering elegant structure, brightness of flavors, and naturally balanced acidity.

HARVEST

- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- Harvest date: October 8

WINEMAKING

- Hand-sorted while still cold from the field
- Fermented in small, closed-top stainless steel tanks with indigenous yeasts
- 5 day cold soak, 33 day total maceration
- Gentle pumpovers and délestage
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrel
- Aged 20 months in French oak barrels; 87% new
- Coopers: Taransaud, Darnajou, Boutes, Baron, Leroi
- Varietal composition: 100% cabernet sauvignon
- Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered; June 2019

TASTING NOTES

Grown on the west side of St. Helena, this distinctive cabernet sauvignon clearly displays its origins with a rich garnet hue and sophisticated aromas of cacao bean, crème de cassis, and sweet tobacco on the nose. Layered, with a superb structure, the wine offers impressions of blueberry coulis, black raspberry, and savory herbs like Herbs de Provence. The weighty mid-palate unveils anise spice and a graphite mineral note that combines with a fresh acidity that extends the long finish.