

PAUL HOBBS

2021 CABERNET SAUVIGNON BECKSTOFFER LAS PIEDRAS VINEYARD NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Clonal selection: 4
- Rootstock: 110r
- Plant date: 2001
- Soil: Cortina, gravel loam
- Exposure: 0-5% slope, full exposure
- Trellis and pruning: bilateral cordon, vertical shoot positioning (vsp)

GROWING SEASON

One of the best vintages in recent memory, 2021 will be remembered for its intensely flavored berries, a smooth harvest and most importantly, exquisitely balanced, nuanced, and vivid wines. The season began with historically low rainfall which, coupled with a cold winter, delayed bud break. However, despite the cooler start to the year, the remainder of the season proved to be temperate with no relevant unfavorable weather events. Warm temps and mild May weather conditions, for example, favored a compact bloom and an extremely uniform fruit set with highly desirable small berries and moderately sized, well-spaced clusters. Meanwhile, summer's long, cool mornings and warm afternoons permitted the fruit on the vine to take a slow, leisurely ride to full maturity—excellent for the physiological fruit development we prize. Harvest kicked-off punctually at 12:01 am, September 6, and after six glorious weeks, blessed our house with a fine crop of remarkably delicious, energetic, young wines.

HARVEST

- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- September 25

WINEMAKING

- Varietal composition: 100% cabernet sauvignon
- Hand-sorted while still cold from the field
- Indigenous yeast fermentation
- 31-day total maceration
- Pumpovers and délestage
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrel
- Aged 20 months in French oak barrels; 85% new
- Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered; June 2023

TASTING NOTES

In appearance, this wine offers a dark garnet hue. Concentrated aromatics of wild berry, Bing cherry, blackberry, and currant are layered with hints of mint and earthy graphite notes. On the palate, fresh violets, blueberries, and orange zest offer a contrast to wet-stone minerality and a dusting of cocoa. Both plush and firm, the mouth-filling, taffeta-like tannins deliver a lively tension on the lingering finish.