



Napa Valley Village Cabernet Sauvignon No.1

Sometimes you just want an honest glass of Cabernet. Refreshing, flavorful, not too heavy, and not too light. A Cab for drinking, not contemplating. For the table, not the cellar. And a Napa Cab that doesn't break the bank. A "village" Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. Not a vin de garde, but instead a bright lively wine that is great with food. We blended a "table Cab" from delicious lots of our wine that didn't quite make it into our Matthiasson Cabernet blend but that tasted great together as a non-vintage "village" wine.

Village Cab No1 is a blend of wines from 2017, aged two years in barrels for complexity, and fresh fruity wines from 2018.

As with all of our Cabernet Sauvignon, the fruit was fermented at low temperatures and punched down or pumped over twice per day; we don't strive for a high rate of extraction, instead choosing to preserve the freshness and high-toned aromatics. Since the fermentation temperatures were cool, the fermentation was long and slow, generally lasting for three weeks. The wine was aged between 10 and 22 months in mostly used barrels with a few new barrels included for spice—it is a Napa Valley Cabernet after all.

The nose shows abundant red fruits, lots of bright cherry along with bramble-berries, such as blackberry, cranberry, mulberry, and framed with hints of mineral/herbal characters such as graphite, cedar, and pencil shavings. The palate is vibrant and fresh, with light tannin and beautiful acidity.

Alcohol is 13.3, TA is 6.0 g/l, pH is 3.66. 774 cases produced.

The Vineyards

The Dead Fred Vineyard in Coombsville sits on rocky volcanic soil. Its south-western exposure causes it to pick up heat during the day, and the proximity to the mouth of the Napa Valley keeps the nights cool. We started farming it in 2012.

The York Vineyard is in the heart of Rutherford, on the classic gravelly alluvium known to create the famous "Rutherford Dust" character. We started farming it in 2013.

The Helen's Gate Vineyard is the home of Arthur Berliner and Marian Lever. It sits on an east-facing hill along Whitehall Lane in the Rutherford District of Napa Valley. We planted the vines in 2009.

The Orchard Vineyard is on black clay soil next to our home property, in the Oak Knoll District. Cool breezes and dry cracking soil combine to create structure with red fruits. We started farming it in 2014.

The Bengier Vineyard (formerly Vare) is also on Dry Creek, in the Oak Knoll District, but on gravelly soils in the mouth of the canyon. The cool air drainage and short fall days as the sun is blocked by the redwoods result in light aromatic wine. Steve has managed the vineyard since 2002.

The Matthiasson Vineyard is on loamy alluvial soil on the west side of the Oak Knoll District, just south of the Red Hen Vineyard. It is the coolest of the vineyards, receiving morning fog and afternoon sea breezes most summer days. This is our home vineyard.