



2017 CLARET

Harvest of 2017 was unusually early for us, so the wildfires that ravaged Napa and Sonoma counties that year, happened while our wines were already in tank or barrel. We were thankfully spared from the flames and any smoke damage to our fruit.

Our Left-Bank Cabernet Sauvignon-based blend is comprised of 80% Cabernet blended with Merlot and a trace of Petit Verdot. Another very dark, opaque appearance belies the degree of ripeness achieved in the early 2017 vintage. Balanced like a fine Cabernet, red and Bing cherry aromas characterize the purity of the fruit. A flood of fruit coats the midpalate, framed in popping and beautiful tannins that linger gently in the finish, which extends with natural integrated acidity. [94 Jeb Dunnuck]

Howell Mountain, at 2000ft, on the east side of Napa Valley, has extreme exposure, larger temperature swings, and volcanic soil, creating big firm shoulders, and masculine tannins. Calistoga vineyards are hotter and earlier to ripen, which provide the mid-palate lushness of glycerin and a higher alcohol.

SPECIFICATIONS

Wine: 2017 Claret

Appellation: Napa Valley [Calistoga, Howell Mountain]

Vineyard: Valley Floor and Mountain AVAs

Varieties: 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

Harvest: Hand picked September 2017

Vinification: 7-day fermentation in stainless; aged in French Oak barrels

Alcohol: 15.5% Bottled: May 2019 Production: 520 cases Winemaker: Bob Foley Retail price: \$125