



YAO MING

2017 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Tasting notes:

Appearance exhibits a deep ruby garnet hue. Aromas are layered with berry and flavors of cherry, cassis and violet. There is a core minerality with lavender tones. The oak is well integrated and has nice toasty aroma with hints of vanilla and wild sage. On the palate the wine is lush and firm but also has mature long tannins and supple texture. This wine can be enjoyed now and will age for 10 years. The 2017 growing season was an early vintage in the Napa Valley, we began harvest on Sept 10. We had good balance on the fruiting wire and an average size crop.

Wine Facts:

- Vineyards: Vineyards range from our bench land site in Yountville to Northern St. Helena. The clonal selection includes Cabernet Sauvignon 337, 4 and 6. The soils are alluvial fan and volcanic rock at an elevation between 70- 548.6 meters (200-1800 feet) above sea level.
- Harvest: Sept 10 through October 3. Grapes were harvested at an average of 25.6°Brix.
- Winemaking: Fruit was rigorously hand-sorted and fully destemmed to small stainless steel tanks with light crushing. Cold soaks (5-7 days), warm fermentations between 29– 32°C (85-90°F), and moderate pumpovers twice each day. Total skin contact ranged from 19-34 days with all fermentations being carefully basket pressed and put to barrel on full fermentation lees for malolactic fermentation (ML). Racking was twice per year with only one assemblage being done to allow the blend to “marry” in barrel. Barrels for final blend were hand selected by taste. Native yeast and ML used with only small lots conducted using cultured Bordeaux isolates. Bottled without filtration.
- Blend: 94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot.
- Cooperage and Aging: 65% new barrels; 100% French oak. Total time in barrel: 20 months
- Bottling: December 2018. 408 cases produced.
- Final bottling technical information:
 - pH: 3.59
 - TA: 6.1 g/L
 - Alcohol: 14.5 %
- Release date: Summer 2020.