

# 2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON | NAPA VALLEY

## **Grape Varieties**

90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot, 5% Petite Sirah

#### Vineyard

The genesis of Emblem Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is in the Michael Mondavi Family Vineyards, nestled along the northeastern hillsides of Napa Valley high above St. Helena. Farmed sustainably and organically, certified Napa Valley Green and Fish Friendly, the vineyards exemplify a generational commitment to responsible farming.

## Vintage Notes

The winter of 2017 provided ample rainfall to invigorate the vines, providing them with the nutrients and water stores to carry a balanced crop through harvest. A tepid spring led to bud break a few days behind previous vintages, yet a consistently warm Spring and Summer afforded wonderful ripening and sunlight across the grape clusters. The early Fall was dry, warm and breezy pushing the grapes to maturity, leading to a lovely harvest with small berries that added to the intensity of the vintage. The 2017 vintage is being noted as one with great complexity and balanced ripe berries and our Emblem Cabernet Sauvignon exemplifies these characteristics.

# Winemaking

The grapes are exclusively hand-harvested. During fermentation the colors, flavors, textures and aromas are naturally extracted from the skins. At approximately 14 days, the primary fermentation is completed. The tanks are then drained, then the skins are removed and gently pressed to capture the remaining complex juice. Finally the young wine is transferred into small French oak barrels (66% new French oak) and aged for 18 months.

### **Blending Notes**

Thoughtfully sculpted, the 2017 Emblem Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is a blend of three complementary varietals: Cabernet Sauvignon provides the depth and structure; Petite Sirah imparts exotic spices and violet floral attributes, and Petit Verdot ties the blend together with additional structure and a vibrant aroma of primrose and subtle sandalwood.

#### Tasting notes

Reminiscent of classic Napa Valley elegance, the Emblem Cabernet Sauvignon also embraces a modern ripe style by weaving in a small percentage of Petite Sirah to lift the aromatics and add plushness to the palate. Black currant, broken cacao and a wisp of eastern spices from the French oak provide structure and a graceful finish. Hints of floral from both the Petite Sirah and Petit Verdot are exotically layered over the plum and bramble based fruit notes. This wine is ready to drink now with a tannin structure that also provides the potential of elegant cellaring and aging.

Total acidity: 5.9 g/l | pH: 3.78

ABV: 14.5%

Production: 6,151 Cases



