

Animo

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON | NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD

Our vineyard, with its stony, volcanic terroir, sits atop Atlas Peak at an elevation between 1,270 to 1,350 feet and is located at the edge of a steep canyon which overlooks the town of Oakville. The site, which was purchased and planted in 1999 by the Michael Mondavi Family is predominantly comprised of Cabernet Sauvignon from the Clone Four variety grafted on 110R Rootstock.

VINTAGE NOTES

February 2018 saw abundant rains, followed by lots of sunny days in spring and early summer. Both bud break & flowering occurred a bit later in the season, but under ideal weather conditions, creating plentiful and even fruit set. Summer brought generous sun during the day and cooler marine influences, virtually uninterrupted by major heat spikes. The relatively mild summer followed by extended fall sunshine and moderate heat created near-ideal conditions for our winemaker to allow their fruit to accumulate flavor complexity with gradual increases in sugar levels. We began harvesting our Animo Vineyard on October 10th completing with our final pick date of October 20th.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes came into the winery early in the morning and were gently transferred into our Pellenc de-stemmer, known as one of the most precise and gentle tools in the winemaking process. The berries were then transferred into small tanks and allowed to rest for one day prior to commencing with fermentation. Press began and we opted for a short maceration time since the small, mountain berries naturally provide ample intensity of color, tannins, and texture. The wine was then transferred to French oak barrels allowing the classic warmth of barrel aging to ensue.

TASTING NOTES

The 2018 Animo Cabernet Sauvignon offers a harmonious aromatic balance of rich dark fruit, stems of roses, and earthy forest floor. The juicy entry offers a round, silky mouthfeel with just enough acidity to complement the satin texture. This seductive wine shows flavors of black cassis, black cherry and a hint of cocoa powder. The fine-grained, plush tannins evolve into a long, supple finish.

BLEND: 95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot

AGING: 20 months in French oak (50% new, 50% neutral)

ALCOHOL: 14.6 %; TA 6.0 g/L; pH 3.70

CASES PRODUCED: 1,067



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