

HILL FAMILY

2019 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Production: 1,435 cases

Composition: 95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Petit Verdot, 1% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc

Vineyards: Baker, Beau Terre, Spiterri, Windy Flats, Davis and Hansen

Cooperage: 18 months in 24% new oak as follows: 3% American oak (Canton Grand Cru), 22% new

French oak (Icone, Tonnellerie O, Treuil, Nadalier Noisette)

Alcohol: 15.6%, TA 6.3, pH 3.81 Bottling date: July 16, 2021 Release date: Fall 2021 Release price: \$60.00

The 2019 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is carefully blended to give power and balance. We appreciate the opportunity to use high elevations (Baker Vineyard in Atlas Peak is at 1,200 ft.) with their intense tannins and color, then blend and civilize them with vineyards from the valley floor and cooler areas. 2019 was a solid viticultural year, with less than average yields. Winter rains came up short, and our first warm spell was in late April, but we received 5" of rain in May, giving growers a hard time keeping mildew out and getting vineyard work done. Our next hot spell was in early June, but then things calmed down into a nice pattern until mid-August when a serious hot spell made fires in Hopland worrisome, but then the fog pattern came back in and things ripened up nicely. Most of the Cabernet Sauvignon came in the week of October 22 thru October 25 at 26 Brix, with excellent color and ripe tannns. Most of the fruit had a 3-day cold soak, high temperatures, followed by 2 weeks on the skins before pressing.

Winemaker Alison Doran's tasting notes:

The 2019 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon has beautiful aromas of rich mocha and blackberry with violets and vanilla. The palate is ripe and smooth, with blackberry, and black cherry flavors and a rich oak spice backbone and a broad lush texture. This wine has tremendous viscosity for being so young and has a lot of room to grow and integrate all the flavors.