

2015 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

CALISTOGA | NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE NOTES

After three consecutive vintages described variously as “classic,” “textbook” and “near perfect,” 2015 was a much more eventful growing season across Napa Valley. Unseasonably warm weather early in the year accelerated bud break and bloom, then a cold snap in late spring resulted in uneven fruit set. Two unseasonably rainy weeks in May caused a fair amount of shatter. Once the heat kicked back on, it never stopped, giving us weeks of near 100-degree heat with no cooling fog. All of these climate challenges made for a tiny crop with tiny berries. Harvest began in July—one of the earliest on record for Napa Valley. Our picking window was so compressed we nearly ran out of tank space in the winery, despite lower yields.

The combination of a short crop and warm, dry growing season tends to produce wine in which black fruits predominate. This is certainly the case for the 2015 Elusa wines, which are some of the more intense in our library. Highly lauded when young, these wines should continue to reveal nice balance and structure as they age.

VINEYARD NOTES

Luvisi Vineyards sits in close proximity to the winery and has been farmed by the family since 1908. Dry farmed and south-facing, the vineyard sits on an loam alluvium. Lantz vineyard means sourcing fruit from the immediate neighborhood. We started sourcing here in 2014. Edgar Lantz grows his fruit at the foot of the Oat Hill Mine Trail. Working with these vineyards keeps winemaking at Elusa obsessively local.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon is ready to drink now. Ruby in color, this red-fruit-forward wine presents notes of cherry compote, red plums, anise, and creamy notes - like that of cherry panna cotta and cherry cream. A good level of intensity is complimented by grippy tannins and a polished, clean finish. The sweet oak notes are balance and well integrated.



TECHNICAL DATA

APPELLATION | CALISTOGA, NAPA VALLEY
VARIETAL | 100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
VINEYARD SOURCE | LANZ VINEYARD,
LUVISI VINEYARD
CLONES | 169, 191, 337
AGING | 20 MONTHS
COOPERS | BARON, REMOND, TREUIL
ALCOHOL | 14.9%
BOTTLING DATE | JUNE 2017
PRODUCTION | 22 BARRELS
WINEMAKER | THOMAS RIVERS BROWN



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