

Cabernet Sauvignon Spring Mountain District 2016

Harvest Date:	September 27th, October 9th, 10th, 21st, 22nd, 26th
Grape Source:	Spring Mountain District (York Creek, Barnett Vineyards). All Estate
Blend:	76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot, 9% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc
Aging:	22 months in French Oak Barrels
	65% new and 35% two to five years old
Alcohol:	14.6%
Total Production :	105 Barrels made
Release Date:	October 2018
Winemaker:	David Tate

Vintage Notes: In 2016 we returned to what Napa is famous for, temperate seasons. A positive amount of rain fell over the winter months followed by a warm spring. Summer was moderately hot and Fall was nearly perfect with its warm days and cool nights. After a year like 2015 it was nice to return to a decent crop (1.5 tons per acre) hanging on our usually very low yielding mountain. Tasting through the varietals a larger amount of Petit Verdot followed by Merlot fit into the blend nicely, while a smaller amount of Cabernet Franc added structure and complexity. Sourced from our own estate and neighboring vineyards under Estate control, this concentrated Spring Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon is a great example of the layers that low yielding mountain fruit delivers.

Winemaker Notes: The grapes were sourced from our Estate, and neighboring York Creek Vineyards, with the entire blend being solely from the Spring Mountain Appellation and all under estate control. Each lot's time frame of maceration was based individually on each lot's extraction, from 13 to 25 days. Each vineyard block was then aged separately for 22 months, the barrels being French oak and 65% new. The higher addition of Petit Verdot added structured tannins to the big Cabernet Sauvignon fruit while the Merlot adds mouthfeel. The Cabernet Franc adds spice to the aromatics as well as further backbone.

Tasting Notes: The 2016 Spring Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon is deep purple to the core. Blueberry pie, cloves and black plum jump from the glass. The nose is also filled with anise, cedar and black pepper. The velvety mouthfeel is complemented by a range of dark berry fruit, pepper spice and cocoa. The tannins are wonderfully balanced, chalky and present but not over gripping. The mountain acidity is definitely present and balanced with the tannins. This beautiful wine will age wonderfully over the next 14-15 years (2032-2033).