

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

AVA: Napa Valley

NVS - Napa Valley Select

Winemaker: Jeff Ames

Cooperage: 22 Months French Oak, Taransaud and Darnajou

Napa Valley Select – Sourced from select vineyard sites throughout Napa Valley, the NVS blend captures the best characteristics and qualities of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon.

Napa Valley AVA – One of the world's premier wine regions, the Napa Valley Appellation brings the ideal combination of Mediterranean climate, geography and geology, providing excellent consistency vintage-to-vintage. Flanked by the Mayacamas and Vaca Mountain ranges, distinct microclimates and terrains can be found throughout the valley, allowing for a wide range of world-class grape varieties with distinct, recognizable qualities.

Vintage Notes – 2018 saw bud break, flowering and harvest later than normal. A mild summer with no noteworthy heat spikes meant generous sunny days and cooler marine influences. Extended fall sunshine created ideal conditions and allowed for extended hangtime as the grapes developed amazing phenolics and flavors. This vintage will likely be rated among the best in the past 20 years.

Antonio Galloni, Vinous – "Napa Valley experienced two stunning back-to-back vintages in 2018 and 2019 the likes of which I have never seen. Both vintages produced a bevy of breathtaking wines that will thrill Napa Valley fans"

Wine Maker Notes – The 2018 NVS Cabernet Sauvignon shows aromas of black fruits, cocoa bean and tobacco that hint to the exotic nature of this full-bodied beauty. The palate is met with complex layers of strawberry, black cherry, licorice, and mocha. The ripe tannins are balanced, and flavors of pie crust and molasses linger throughout. Everything comes together perfectly with an inky finish that is long and satisfying. Decant and enjoy this wine now or cellar for a decade, as it will continue to develop for years to come.

Accolades

2018 NVS, Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, Jeb Dunnuck, 95

Starting with the 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon NVS, this deeply colored 2018 boasts a big, opulent nose of dark currants, chocolate, tobacco, and damp earth. Dense and backward aromatically, it has full-bodied richness on the palate and stays lively and balanced, with a solid sense of freshness, ripe tannins, and a great finish. Blossoming with time in the glass and showing more freshness and elegance, this is a beautiful, layered wine I'd be happy to drink. It should evolve for 20 years or more and drink well for all of it.