

## 2016 SONOMA COUNTY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



RELATIONSHIPS Our wines begin in the vineyard with the people who plant and cultivate the vines. A true understanding of the soil and microclimate is the key to unlocking a vineyard's potential. Our growers have spent decades honing their farming to deliver exceptional quality wine grapes. Farming within the parameters of each vintage requires a connection to the earth that is hard-won and humbling. Working with viticulturists who 'listen' to their vines and strive for quality over quantty rewards us both in the relationship and in the cellar. We also work closely with our coopers to ensure our oak program is dialed-in for each wine so as to help frame the structure of the wine without taking center stage.

**SOURCING** Earth, soil, terroir – the gradation from the generic to the specific to the unique. Recognizing this distinction is the foundation of seeking vineyards of notable character. We set our sights on small vineyard parcels that embody the best and most recognizable hallmarks of each region at times layering complimentary components across appellations to create blends of nuance and complexity.

**ELEVEN Cabernet Sauvignon** was grown in select areas of Sonoma County. Our Northern Sonoma Valley vineyard source is perched on an impossibly steep hillside near Hood Mountain, where intensely rocky soils and elevations of 600 feet and higher coalesce to yield tiny, darkly pigmented berries. The sheer power of the Sonoma Valley fruit is framed and tamed by the refinement of our Alexander Valley vineyard, nestled in the mild climate of the southern Alexander Valley.

WINEMAKER NOTES In the cellar our barrel regime is focused on a tightly curated range of French oak coopers with a focus on Seguin Moreau Icone, LeGrand, and Demptos. The artisan touches these cooperages provide contribute elegance, finesse, and background structure to the wine. Each Cabernet lot is fermented and aged separately in barrel for 14 months, then blended and aged a further 10 months as an ensemble. The final blend is comprised of nearly equal parts from each region, displaying a purple core of luscious juicy ripe black fruits, blueberry, peppered meats, and rich earthen notes. The full-bodied mid-palate leads to a long finish with excellent balance and structure complimented by firm acidity and soft integrated tannins.

**PRODUCTION:** 7,800 bottles 100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Alc: 14.5% • pH: 3.69 • TA: 6.3 g/L • R.S.: 0.06%