

HENDRY



Est. 1939

CELEBRATING EIGHT DECADES OF FAMILY WINEGROWING

2018 CABERNET FRANC BLOCKS 9D & 26 NAPA VALLEY

The Hendry Vineyard is located on benchlands just west of the town of Napa. The Chardonnay vines grow on thin, stony soils between 200 and 300 feet above sea level. The vineyard is at the intersection of the cooler Carneros appellation and the greater Napa Valley, which becomes warmer as you travel northward. Morning fog and afternoon breezes from the San Pablo Bay moderate the climate, giving us long, warm summer days and cooler nights.

Block 26 and 9D are our only Cabernet Franc blocks. They are CTPS clone 332 and FPMS clone 4, grafted to St. George roots. Block 26 is the older of the two, planted in 1998. Block 9D was planted in 2003.

The Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec and Petit Verdot blocks in our vineyard were all planted with the intention of having wines to blend with our Cabernet Sauvignon. After a few vintages, George was so pleased with the depth and complexity of our Block 8 Cabernet Sauvignon on its own that he began using these Bordeaux “blending” grapes to make their own unique wine, our RED blend. Occasionally, we bottle very small quantities of the individual varieties and release them on a limited basis.

This wine is such a release, our first single-variety Cabernet Franc since 2010. It was aged for 15 months in French oak barrels, approximately 40% of which are new.

Deep ruby color. Blackcurrant/cassis and sweet violet on the nose. Tea, mint and other herbal aromas follow with air. Velvety entry transitions to tea and bittersweet chocolate. The initially pronounced tannins need time and air to soften and release their hold. The wine continues to evolve in the glass, yielding a host of herbal, spice, soft floral and fruit aromas. This would be delicious with steak au poivre, grilled lamb with Greek spanakopita, filet mignon or even beef and mushroom stew.

Alcohol 14.7%.