



SOURCING

44% Howell Mountain, 40% St. Helena, 6% Spring Mountain, 4% Oakville, 3% Calistoga, 3% Mount Veeder

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

98% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot

VINIFICATION

Vineyard lots harvested and vinified separately
Aged 18 months in new French oak (90% new), 16 months in bottle

ANALYSIS

Alc: 15.2% | TA: 6.4 g/L | pH: 3.77

ESTD  1876

BERINGER

PRIVATE RESERVE

2018 PRIVATE RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY

The brothers Frederick and Jacob Beringer established Beringer in 1876 in the belief that Napa could be a premier wine-growing region like Germany's Rhine River Valley, from which they hailed. The brothers quickly made Beringer famous for producing world-class wines, a legacy that continues to this day and reaches its finest expression in our Private Reserve series. Vintage 2018 is our 44th release.

To make these small-production wines, Beringer chooses the best lots from our reserve vineyards in the Napa Valley, each demonstrating a different aspect of Napa's prized terroir. Beringer's Private Reserve wines have become famous as one of the truest expressions of a given vintage.

VINEYARDS

Steinhauer Ranch (22%), Bancroft Ranch (15%), Pauli (3%) and Marc Mondavi Ranch (4%) vineyards atop Howell Mountain provide the foundation for the 2018 blend. Fruit from the St. Helena Home Vineyard (25%) and Chabot Vineyard (15%) add the warmth of the St. Helena appellation to the overall blend. Exceptional fruit from Spring Mountain's Marston Vineyard (6%), Oakville's Gamble Ranch Vineyard (4%) join contributions from Calistoga's Bear Flats Vineyard (3%) and Mount Veeder's Derr Family Vineyard (3%). Each vineyard lot is closely watched during the ripening period to determine ideal pick time. Grapes for the 2018 Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon were harvested between October 9 – 31st.

WINEMAKING

The Beringer reserve vineyards offer Cabernet Sauvignon of such quality that a minimalist approach to winemaking has long defined this special blend. Each vineyard is vinified separately and monitored carefully from the moment the fruit comes into the winery at Harvest. Tailored pump-over techniques are used for optimal extraction, and the wine is aged in hand-selected, custom-toasted barrels of new French oak (90% new). Each lot was aged for 18 months before selection of the final blend, to allow each vineyard to express the depth of its unique terroir.

VINTAGE

Winter rain in January and February of 2018 eased long drought conditions. After a relatively wet winter, both bud break and flowering occurred later than average, but under ideal weather conditions, creating plentiful and even fruit set. Warm summer temperatures with cool marine influences in the mornings and evenings, allowed for a long growing season, uninterrupted by any major heat spikes. The mild summer run was followed by extended fall sunshine with moderate heat and no early rains, creating near-ideal conditions to allow fruit extended hang time for gradual ripening, increase sugar levels and flavor complexity development.

TASTING NOTES

Deeply saturated in color with a rich depth and elegance, exhibiting a substantial backbone and structure, all hallmarks of this incredible 2018 vintage, and will continue to reward after years of careful cellaring. Fresh, ripe berry notes of blackberry, black cherry, crème de cassis and dark plum all combine, offering a plush, juicy, mouthwatering character that is very approachable in its youth. Complex layers of wild bramble berry fruit, wild violets and notes of cocoa powder, dark chocolate, graphite and tobacco spice, from the well-integrated oak, seamlessly are interwoven with the full-bodied ripe tannins, supporting a firm structure with balanced acidity, leading to a long, persistent, textured finish.