

2016 Cabernet Sauvignon, Heart Arrow Ranch (Biodynamically grown)



History

This strikingly beautiful ranch, located in the northern reaches of Redwood Valley, Mendocino County, is a living tribute to the principles of Biodynamic farming. The entire farm is a self-sustaining microcosm of life: the vegetables, grape vines, and agricultural trees are all fertilized by the animals—sheep, pigs, cows, chickens, goats, horses—that live on the property. No pesticides or herbicides are used on the farm.

The Cabernet Sauvignon grown on the property comes from vines planted on a steep slope of bright red, rocky, volcanic soil. The vines struggle to produce fruit on this well-drained rocky soil, which produces tiny amounts of intense, complex fruit that we make into structured, almost Bordeaux-like Cabernet Sauvignon.

Production

The grapes were picked very late in the season, and they ripened perfectly in this warm, steady year. The vines produced only about 2 tons per acre of pea-sized, black grapes. We hand-sorted the grapes on a conveyor so that only perfect fruit was crushed, and fermented the grapes for almost one month in small stainless steel tanks, using only the native yeasts on the grapes.

After pressing, the wine was aged for 24 months in small French oak barrels, using about 20% new oak for flavor and firm structure. We raked the wine from barrel every six months to clarify it, and bottled it with no fining and minimal filtration. The resulting wine has a fine structure and a complex, layered flavor profile.

Production Notes :

Varietals

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation

Eagle Peak,
Mendocino County

Alcohol

13.5 % by vol.

Time in oak

24 months

Oak

100% French oak
20% new barrels

Production

339 cases, 750ml

Release date

August 15, 2018

Optimum time for consumption

2018-2030

Tasting Notes :

Color : Purple black

Aroma : Blackberry, cassis, plum, graphite, pepper, toast, minerals

Taste : Beautiful structured wine, with great acidity balanced with complex fruit. Entry of blackberry, cassis, pomegranate, and then broader flavors of plum, earth, forest floor, black cherry, medium weight, persistent finish of blackberry, black cherry, mineral, and black peppery spice.