



2017 CALLUNA ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

As the flagship of the winery, Calluna Estate is selected from the best lots of our hillside vineyards in the Chalk Hill AVA in the heart of Sonoma County. Our vineyards rest at an ideal elevation in this moderate growing area — allowing full ripening with less extremes of frost and heat. Our goal is to deliver both the classic balance of Old World wines and the richness inherent in our Sonoma terroir. Each of the 12 blocks are fermented separately and then evaluated with blending trials after their first 5 months in barrel.

In 2017, the final blend for the Estate is comprised of:

78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Cabernet Franc, 4% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, 2% Malbec



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Appellation

Chalk Hill

Harvest dates

Malbec: September 13, 2017

Merlot: September 19 & 29, 2017

Cabernet Franc: October 4, 2017

Cabernet Sauvignon: October 4 & 7, 2017

Petit Verdot: October 4, 2017

Winemaking

Hand-harvested, manually sorted and fermented with a traditional method in open-top tanks with temperature control.

Farming

Practicing Organic (as yet uncertified)

Cooperage

21 months in French oak barrels,
40% new

pH

3.8

Alcohol

14.1%

Production

449 cases

Release date

Spring 2021

Vintage

2017 will be remembered as the year ending in infernos as a counterpoint to the record rains beginning the season. While the drought had already ended, the Winter and Spring 2017 rains put an exclamation point on it with the measured annual rain season at a record-setting 50-60". Our fruit was in perfect shape at the end of August with solid yields. The first inferno was the Labor Day heat spike at 111°F for 2 days which destroyed about 30% of our crop. The second inferno was the Tubbs fire which was frightening but did not reach Calluna. All of our fruit was harvested before the fires (with the one exception of our Block 1 Cabernet which has been bottled separately as a precaution). So smoke taint was not an issue for us, but the sunburn from the high heat forced us to aggressively cull out unwanted fruit to leave us with high quality grapes with moderate sugar. Although our alcohols this year remain moderate, the wines show the generosity and size of a warmer vintage.

ABOUT CALLUNA VINEYARDS

Calluna Vineyards took root in Sonoma County in 2005 with 12-acres in the Chalk Hill appellation planted to Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Malbec. From its advantageous hillsides overlooking the Russian River Valley, Chalk Hill is known for its mild climate and soils of clay underlain with fractured shale and sandstone. Five more acres were added in 2014, including Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon destined for our Estate Blanc.

DAVID A. JEFFREY, *Winemaker and Founder*

After 20 years of studying and collecting the wines of Bordeaux and California, David moved to the West Coast and enrolled in Fresno State's Enology program in 2001. Determined to make his dream a reality, David spent 3½ years studying winemaking and grape growing as he completed his degree and worked at Chateau Quinault in Bordeaux, France.