

2019 Vintage Release



JOSEPH PHELPS
V I N E Y A R D S

Est. 1973

It was March 1, 1973 when Joe took possession of the 600-acre cattle ranch on the east side of St. Helena. He wasted no time, laying out and planting 100 acres of vineyards.

In 1973, the first vintage of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon was crafted and in 1974 Joe created what is arguably his most important legacy: California's very first proprietary red Bordeaux-style blend—*Insignia*. His idea, to blend the finest wine lots of the vintage into one bottling, was revolutionary for its time. The wine brought recognition not only to JOSEPH PHELPS VINEYARDS, but ultimately to Napa Valley as a whole.

Today, *Insignia* is recognized as one of the world's most iconic wines. The 2002 vintage was awarded "Wine of the Year" by Wine Spectator magazine in 2005 and Robert Parker Wine Advocate has awarded four perfect 100-point scores to the 1991, 1997, 2002 and 2007 vintages of *Insignia*.

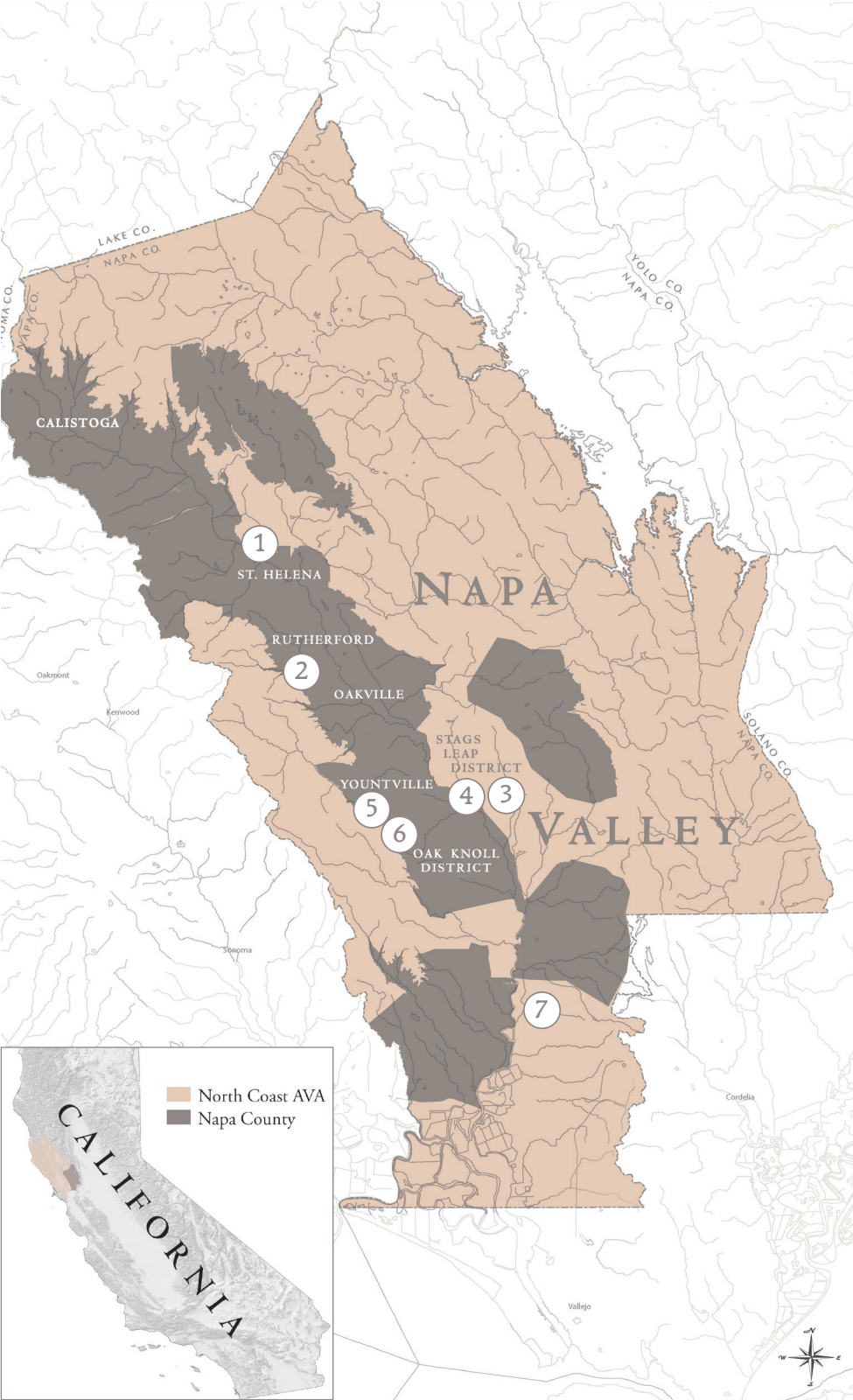


“The winemaker’s role is to ensure
that the terroir and beauty of the vineyard in which
the grapes are grown are expressed in the finished wine.
At Joseph Phelps our winemaking philosophy is to create
the very best wine from the vintage we’ve been given,
making sure that the wine is complex, balanced,
and that it expresses the soul of the vineyard.”

Ashley Hepworth,
Winemaker, Joseph Phelps Napa Valley

Today the Phelps family owns and farms 425 acres of vines in Napa Valley on nine estate vineyards in St. Helena, Rutherford, Oakville, Stags Leap District, Oak Knoll District, South Napa and Carneros, all farmed under sustainable guidelines designed to protect the health of the soils, the vines, and the plants and wildlife with which we share our land. Strategically chosen, each vineyard has its own personality and brings a different characteristic to the wines.





- ① Home Ranch Vineyard
- ② Banca Dorada Vineyard
- ③ Las Rocas Vineyard
- ④ Barboza Vineyard
- ⑤ Yountville Vineyard
- ⑥ El Venadito Vineyard
- ⑦ Suscol Vineyard



Home Ranch Vineyard

St. Helena

Planted to 53 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Petit Verdot, Sauvignon Blanc, Viognier, and Scheurebe. The hillside provides bold tannins and black fruit character, while the valley floor terrain offers red fruit and long mid-palate distinction in the wines.

Banca Dorada Vineyard

Rutherford

Planted to 14 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon. Many years ago, the term “Rutherford dust” was coined to describe the unique cassis and blackberry flavors derived from this terroir.

Las Rocas Vineyard

Stags Leap District

Planted to 16 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon. Stags Leap wines have a regional personality distinguished by intense berry and cassis flavors, a smooth velvety texture, and the ability to age gracefully.

Barboza Vineyard

Stags Leap District

Planted to 7 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot. Classic Stags Leap character of intense berry flavors, velvety texture, and long-term aging.

Yountville Vineyard

Oak Knoll District

Planted to 20 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon. Deep gravelly and fertile soils contribute to the balance of wines from this location.

El Venadito Vineyard

Oak Knoll District

Planted to 13 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon. Located just South of Yountville Vineyard with deep gravelly and fertile soils that provide the nuance and balance to the wines from this area.

Suscol Vineyard

South Napa Valley

Planted to 38 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Malbec. This southern Napa location receives early morning summer fog that is mitigated by cool afternoon breezes from the San Pablo Bay offering freshness and balance to the blend.

2019 Vintage Notes

In 2019, bud break occurred around the same time as 2018 but was delayed compared to our historical averages due to cold, saturated soils from the wet winter. May was cold with an unusual amount of rainfall which delayed bloom in some areas. Canopy management was key in 2019 because of vigorous canopies and moderate temperatures leading to less stress on the vines. July was cooler than average, but August and September warmed to push ripening ahead. The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon harvest began September 23 and ended October 27. Harvest weather patterns remained dry and fruit quality was excellent with well-developed flavors and structure.





*“The 2019 wines are beautiful, balanced,
and marked by good intensity of dark fruit
characteristics. To have back-to-back vintages
like 2018 and 2019 is a luxury”*

- Ashley Hepworth, Winemaker

2019 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc, 2% Merlot and 1% Malbec



Blend

From select Napa Valley vineyards in St. Helena, south Napa Valley, Oak Knoll District, Stags Leap District and Rutherford in Napa Valley.

Aging

18 months in 48% new oak (58% French, 42% American) and 52% older French and American oak barrels.

Winemaker Notes

A classic Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon with inviting violet, dark fruit, tobacco, subtle baking spice and earthy dried herb aromatics. The palate is filled with expressive black cherry, blackberry and dark plum, hints of spice box and sweet vanilla bean. A focused, concentrated wine with youthful energy and freshness nimbly balanced by supple tannin structure and finesse. American oak barrels.

Notes

2019 Insignia

*93% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot, 2%
Malbec*



Blend

From 100% estate-grown vineyards:

23% Banca Dorada Vineyard (Rutherford)

14% Suscol Vineyard (South Napa Valley)

14% Home Ranch Vineyard (St. Helena)

12% Las Rocas Vineyard (Stags Leap District)

3% Barboza Vineyard (Stags Leap District)

2% El Venadito Vineyard (Oak Knoll District)

Aging

24 months in 100% new French oak from coopers *Taransaud*, *Dargaud Jaegle*, *Demptos*, *Marcel Cadet* and *Sylvain*.

Winemaker Notes

The 2019 Insignia opens with heady aromatics of red fruit, crème de cassis, leafy tobacco and delicate dried rose petals. The palate is juicy and dense with expressive layers of blackberry, raspberry, black currant, and dark chocolate. A dynamic wine offering captivating energy, length, complexity and refinement.

Notes
