

CARDINALE

2019

NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

“Since I like to cook, I often feel the need to organize my kitchen. Sometimes it’s the pots and pans, sometimes it’s the glassware, but recently I decided to organize my spice drawers. My first revelation from the experience is that I have amassed a very large collection of spices and dried herbs. This broad palette of flavors allows me to go from classic European/American cooking, to Indian, Persian, Chinese or whatever else happens to be on the docket that evening. I also realized that I had stored at least seven different meat rubs that I had concocted over the years. Each of these had been assembled based on the type of meat I was using (beef, lamb, fish, pork, etc.) and reflected my mood that day – a Cajun rub, versus an Asian spice rub, versus an all-American rib rub.

The parallels with Cardinale struck me. Guided by the vintage character of each year, these wines assemble the distinctive flavors and personality of individual Napa Valley appellations into a richly layered, balanced whole. The 2019 is a great example of this, with its great primary fruit characters, but also tons of rose petal, cedar, espresso bean and pain grillé. The ’19s have a compelling savory aspect that really comes through in this wine – a perfect frame for the intense, dark fruit of the mountains. Whether I’m blending spice rubs or Cardinale, having a rich array of uniquely different components available to combine is a true joy, and I hope you enjoy the results as much as I do.”

- CHRISTOPHER CARPENTER, WINEMAKER

WINE STATISTICS

APPELLATION: 100% Napa Valley
COMPOSITION: 91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot
BARREL AGING: 21 months in 100% French oak, 81% new
ALCOHOL: 14.5%
FINISHING: Unfined and Unfiltered

VINEYARD	Wurtele	Rhyolite Ridge	Yverdon	Domaine Chandon	Wallis	W.S. Keyes	W.S. Keyes	Veeder Peak	Andrew Geoffrey	Edcora	Van Z	Clos Du Val
APPELLATION	Spring Mountain District	Diamond Mountain District	Spring Mountain District	Yountville	Diamond Mountain District	Howell Mountain	Howell Mountain	Mount Veeder	Diamond Mountain District	Atlas Peak	St. Helena	Stag Leap District
ELEVATION	1,000 ft.	750 ft.	1,800 ft.	150 ft.	1,500 ft.	1,825 ft.	1,825 ft.	1,800 ft.	1,850 ft.	1,650 ft.	150 ft.	125 ft.
SOIL	volcanic loam	volcanic loam	volcanic loam	gravelly, clay loam	volcanic loam	white & red volcanic rocky loam	white & red volcanic rocky loam	gravelly loam, black soils	volcanic loam	red rock soil	gravelly loam	haire loam & bale clay loam
VARIETY	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Merlot	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon
% CONTRIBUTION	26%	15.5%	10%	9%	9%	9%	7%	5.5%	3%	2.5%	2.5%	1%
CONTRIBUTION TO THE BLEND	fine tannins, floral, red fruit	sweet, middle, some red	fine tannins, floral, red fruit	floral, silky mid	sweet, middle, some red	dark fruit, herb, weight	dark fruit, herb, weight	blue fruit, length, backbone	dark cherry, broad tannin	dark fruit minerality	middle, red/dark, lush	sweet red, middle, fine tannin

98+ POINTS

“Pure, classic California notes of crème de cassis, spicy oak, chalky minerality, graphite, and spring flowers emerge from the 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon, a blend of 91% Cabernet Sauvignon and 9% Merlot that’s sourced from multiple mountain AVAs in the valley. Full-bodied and powerful on the palate, it has a deep, rich mid-palate, beautiful tannins, notable acidity, and a great, great finish. It’s another brilliant wine from Carpenter that can offer pleasure today yet also evolve for 20-25 years or more.”

- JEB DUNNUCK, JebDunnuck.com, DECEMBER 2021