

2018 Fountaingrove District Cabernet Sauvignon

After the Tubbs Fire in 2017, we began replanting our Obsidian Estate Vineyard. There was a small three-quarter acre plot with no varietal assigned. A bit of thinking was done, and Cabernet was proposed. The first real Obsidian Vineyard Cabernet crop is expected in 2022/2023. We're extremely excited to add Cabernet to our portfolio. However, while we began the wait for our block to grow, we still wanted to find and make some Cabernet. So, we pinpointed an area South of our estate in the Fountaingrove AVA where the climate, soils, and exposure was fungible to our estate — 2018 was the first vintage of this experiment, and it was fun from the jump. Just over two tons were harvested with two separate fermentations carried out. The wine was raised in French oak barrels for 22 months and just over 100 cases were bottled. This is a site driven wine. Taking care to make a classically structured wine, the fruit had ample hang time because of the cool vintage but was picked at moderate sugar levels.

This is a wine for people who appreciate old school Cabernet. It's a Cabernet that's red-fruited, possesses great freshness and acidity, and is remarkably complex. There is a sweet perfumed and dried herbal streak to the wine, I believe pulled from the vineyard's surrounding chaparral and bay laurel. The fruit picks up this aromatic signature, not unlike bouquet garni of Chateauneuf. If you choose to enjoy this wine in the near term, give it a few hours air, otherwise age for five years minimum. Our 2018 Cabernet will reward those with patience.

Cellar Notes

Percentage New Oak Composition

43% 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Barrel Aging Alcohol
22 months 14.2%

Bottling Date Production
September 2020 112 cases

