

# HESTAN VINEYARDS

Napa Valley ✦ Gordon Valley district

## 2017 Stephanie Cabernet Sauvignon

### Vineyards

The Hestan Vineyard has 110 planted acres of low-yielding Bordeaux varieties and is located on the Napa Valley's remote Eastern Slopes. The property, a former cattle ranch, was purchased by Stanley and Helen Cheng in 1996. The soils are well drained and the microclimate in this area is warmer than the valley floor, with an average diurnal of 30 degrees each growing season. Both the vineyard and the gardens are sustainably farmed and solar powered.

### Growing Season

The year began with abundant rainfall, followed by a mild Spring resulting in extended flowering with little shatter. A Labor Day weekend heatwave kicked harvest into high gear, then cool weather allowed sugar levels to return to normal. By October 8 nearly 90% of the 2017 grapes had been harvested in when warm, fierce winds fueled an unprecedented firestorm, which moved west to Santa Rosa. The estate vineyards were untouched by the fires.

### Vinification

Stephanie Cabernet begins with a night harvest in half-ton boxes, which ensures that cleaner fruit is delivered faster to the winery for crushing. The fruit is optically sorted, then goes through a 3–4-day cold soak. Prior to pressing, the fruit is destemmed and inoculation occurs. During fermentation, pump overs and punch downs are performed before the alcohol develops. Aging is done for 26-28 months in tight grain barrels. The barrels have been both air-dried and exhibit a variety of toast levels. Before bottling, the wines go through an oversized filtration and then spend 24 months in glass before release.

### Tasting Notes

From the start, the wine exhibits a great color and begins on the nose with notes of blackberry, pumpkin patch, plum, and cacao. On the palate, there are flavors of blackcurrant, dark fruits including blackberry with a hint of mocha. The tannins are bold and the wine has a long finish, balanced by medium acidity. Hold for 3-5 years.



**Appellation:** Napa Valley

**Vineyard:** Estate

**Aging:** 28 months

**Winemaker:** Jeff Gaffner

**Bottling Dates:** Apr 21, 2020

**Maturation:** 50% new French Oak

**PH:** 3.60

**TA:** 6.1 g/L

**Alcohol:** 14.5%

**Production:** 1083 cases

**SRP:** \$65.00

**Blend:** 88% Cabernet 6% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc 2% Malbec