



2017

HELENA DAKOTA VINEYARD

100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Elevation 750 feet

KNIGHTS VALLEY

Sonoma County, California

KNIGHTS VALLEY

Knights Valley is a remote winegrowing region bridging Sonoma and Napa Counties. It's an untamed landscape defined by rugged mountains, steep hillsides, placid meadows and abundant wildlife. Even though this AVA has produced some of the world's greatest wines, it is still a mystery to most. Set along the flanks and foothills of Mount St. Helena and the Mayacamas Mountains, this rustic sanctuary possesses the sparse volcanic soils and cusp maritime climate needed to produce elegant, profound and age-worthy Cabernet Sauvignons.

HELENA DAKOTA VINEYARD

This 12.4 acre vineyard runs southeast to northwest on the eastern side of scenic Highway 128 and possesses slopes of up to 15 degrees. Prevailing westerly winds pass over a large, cold pond and blow uphill, parallel to the rows of vines. These cooling breezes slow down the ripening of the grapes and result in wines that are packed with elegance, complexity and finesse. A pure mountain stream and rocky ridge separate this vineyard from our Helena Montana vineyard.

VIGNERON NOTES

The 2017 growing season was defined by plentiful rain in the winter followed by mild conditions in spring and summer. To preserve the natural acidity in the grapes, picking began early on September 12th in the Dakota vineyard. The wines were resting in barrel prior to the Sonoma County Tubbs fire in October, therefore remained unaffected by any smoke taint. The 2017 Helena Dakota expresses perfumed aromatics of violet blossom and blackberry liquor with subtle notes of menthol and dried black currants. The luxurious, silky palate is accompanied by hints of toasted baking spices and tobacco leaf. Each element is beautifully integrated and complimented with velvety tannins and vibrant acidity, for which drive its satisfyingly long finish.

— Pierre Seillan, Vigneron

ACCLAIM

96 Points – Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, October 2019



TECHNICAL DATA

ELEVATION: 750 ft
SOIL: Red-brown silt loam
CELLAR AGING
POTENTIAL: 20 years

ALCOHOL: 13.8%
AGING: 13 months in 70% new
French oak barrels

FLAVOR PROFILE: Violet blossom, blackberry
liquor, menthol, dried black
currants, toasted baking
spices and tobacco leaf