

ANAKOTA



2018



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 ideal climate needed to produce elegant, profound and age-worthy Cabernet Sauvignons.

HELENA DAKOTA VINEYARD

This 12.4 acre vineyard runs southwest to northeast on the western side of Mount Saint Helena, with 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 richness, complexity and balance. A pure mountain stream and rocky ridge separate this vineyard from our Helena Montana vineyard.

VIGNERON NOTES

Replenishing winter rains ushered an exceptional start to the 2018 growing season, leading to a lengthy budbreak and flowering, with nearly perfect fruit-set throughout a cool spring. Warm weather and bright sunshine settled in by June, but the nights remained very cool, and the season progressed without any major heat spikes. These ideal conditions continued well into the fall, leading to even ripening of tannins, sugar levels, and acidity. The 2018 Helena Dakota is characteristically fragrant, opulent, and complex, bursting with fresh blueberry and black currant, Crème de Violette, and subtle fresh bay leaf aromatics. The palate is luxurious and rich, perfectly balancing this wine's firm structure, and driving to a long finish of dark baking chocolate and luscious dark fruit.

— Pierre Seillan, Vigneron

ACCLAIMS

99 Points – Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, January 2021

98+ Points – Jeb Dunnuck, *JebDunnuck.com*, July 2021



TECHNICAL DATA

ELEVATION: 750 ft

SOIL: Red-brown silt loam

CELLAR AGING

POTENTIAL: 20 years

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

AGING: 13 months in 90% new
French oak barrels

HARVESTED: September 26

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