



2018

HELENA MONTANA VINEYARD 100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Elevation 950 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 MONTANA VINEYARD

Running northeast to southwest at an elevation of 950 feet above sea level, the 60-acre Helena Montana vineyard is marked by rolling hills and steep benches that tilt up to 30 degrees. It features firm, dense, white/yellow gravelly loam soils that drain extremely well. The combination of hills, knolls and trees helps route cool, westerly winds away from the vines. Helena Montana Cabernets are concentrated and powerful with black fruit flavors, spice, minerals and muscular tannins.

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 Montana is focused and powerful on the nose, showing ripe red and black currant, along with dried bouquet garni, and a subtle frame of sweet baking spices. The palate is a tour de force of varied fruit and non-fruit flavors, wrapped around a powerful core, teeming with firm tannin and juicy acidity.

— Pierre Seillan, Vigneron

ACCLAIMS

97+ Points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Robert Parker Wine Advocate, January 2021

97 Points - Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, July 2021



TECHNICAL DATA

ELEVATION: 950 ft

soil: Yellow-white sandy and

gravelly loam

POTENTIAL: 20 years

CELLAR AGING

ALCOHOL: 13.9%

AGING: 13 months in 90% new

French oak barrels

HARVESTED: September 19

FLAVOR PROFILE: Fresh raspberry, black

cherry, dried bay leaf, vanilla

and toasted cardamom