

2021



## 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 great 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 complex volcanic soils and ideal climate needed to produce elegant, profound, and age-worthy Cabernet Sauvignons.

### HELENA MONTANA VINEYARD

This 12.4 acre vineyard is located on the western flanks of Mount Saint Helena, facing southwest at an elevation of 750ft. The nutrient-rich soils in this site, composed of reddish-brown clay loam with weathered volcanic rock, contribute energy to the vines, supporting vigorous canopy growth and ample ripeness of fruit. The vineyard is faced on the southeast by a small pond, over which prevailing breezes pass, moderating the Knights Valley warmth. The resulting wines show generous concentration, and balance, with a robust structure. A cool mountain stream and a rocky ridge separate this vineyard from our Helena Montana vineyard.

### VIGNERON NOTES

A second straight year of drought, 2021 began with careful pruning through the cold winter months to prepare our vineyards for the coming season. Late winter and spring were cooler than average and pushed budbreak back by a few weeks, but warm weather set in by May and the season proceeded with only a few minor heat events. Harvest began in mid-September, and the resulting wines are powerfully full-bodied.

"2021 Helena Dakota shows blackberry coulis, black plum liqueur, freshly ground coffee, and subtle dried bay leaf. The palate texture is firm and marked by flavors of bittersweet dark baking cocoa, countered by supple fruit and lush florals. The finish is long and laced with iron minerality." – Pierre Seillan, Vigneron

### ACCLAIM

**95-97** POINTS – Erin Brooks, Robert Parker Wine Advocate, August 2023



### TECHNICAL DATA

**ELEVATION:** 750 ft

**ALCOHOL:** 13.8%

**FLAVOR PROFILE:** Violet blossom, blackberry coulis, black currant liqueur, toasted baking spices and bittersweet cocoa nib

**SOIL:** Red-brown clay with volcanic rock

**AGING:** 15 months in 85% new French oak barrels

**CELLAR AGING:** 20+ years

**HARVESTED:** September 16