

ROBERT CRAIG WINERY



2018 MOUNT VEEDER CABERNET SAUVIGNON

After the 2017 fires that left our entire Amentet Vineyard crop on the vine, 2018 provided nearly perfect growing conditions along the northern portion of the Mount Veeder AVA. We continued the conversion to cane pruning in order to allow for each vine to determine its fruit load. It has been an expensive and labor intensive process, but the results have been tremendous. The 2018 vintage was also remarkable in that we used barely any irrigation for the year after turning up every other row to plant new cover crop. The lack of water kept vegetative growth in check, resulting in small and intensely flavored clusters.

The 2018 Amentet Vineyard Mount Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon is simply a massive, iconic example of what is possible in the Mount Veeder AVA. Dried cocoa flake, pencil shavings, cassis, dark floral undertones, and mineral accents all emerge from the glass after a couple of minutes of air. The tannin structure is profound, but the tannins remain juicy, round and well developed so that the wine enjoys a seamless weight on the palate and a finish that extends beyond expectation.

VINEYARD

- Adjacent to the Pym Rae vineyard, Amentet reaches 1700' on Mount Veeder
- Sandy, gravel-based soils of shale with a sandstone topsoil produce wines that are black in color with very low PH values and naturally high acids: a perfect combination for longevity
- The beauty of this warmer, fog-free northern section of Mount Veeder is that the wines are free of any unwanted vegetal or rustic characteristics that can affect cooler climate sites to the south

VINTAGE

- The 2018 vintage kicked off with heavy winter rains and record rainfall
- Budbreak and bloom arrived right on time
- A cool spring and summer pushed harvest well into September & October
- Overall, the vintage was marked with exceptional quality and increased yields in the Napa Valley in general
- With several pruning passes to ensure fruit intensity, from mountain to valley vineyards throughout Napa, quality was very good

BLEND 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc

HARVEST DATES 10/24/2018

AVERAGE SUGAR 25.0° Brix

TA 6.0g/L PH 3.67

ALCOHOL 14.79%

BARREL AGING 18 mo. French oak; 75% new/25% 2nd yr. Unfiltered & unfined.

BOTTLING DATE May 7 & 11, 2020

CASES PRODUCED 1388

PRICE CA SRP \$110.00