

Cabernet Sauvignon  
ELEVATED™



ROBERT CRAIG WINERY

## 2019 HOWELL MOUNTAIN ZINFANDEL



This gorgeous Zinfandel hails from the incredible Black Sears Vineyard, found –quite literally if you’ve got a good arm—a stone’s throw from our estate vineyard gate at the top of Howell Mountain. When poured out, the wine’s signature Howell Mountain pedigree is immediately evident, with deep blackberry, white pepper and a refreshing minerality at the forefront.

**2019 was a remarkable vintage in the mountains of the Napa Valley and in particular Howell Mountain. Tiny yields and small, uniform bunches made for wine with unparalleled intensity in our history at Robert Craig Winery. True to its Howell Mountain pedigree, the 2019 vintage Black Sears Vineyard Zinfandel is beautifully clean and focused with boysenberry and bramble berry on the nose and palate wrapped in subtle pepper spice. This beauty is balanced and elegantly structured through the finish.**

### VINEYARD

- Black Sears Vineyard has “King of the Mountain” bragging rights – topping out at 2400 feet, making it officially the highest vineyard on the mountain.
- For 25 years, winemakers have clamored for the Zinfandel grown here.
- Black Sears is both biodynamic and organic, the site is dry farmed and the vines pruned in the old world style with no trellising.
- Zinfandel thrives in the mountain’s well-drained, rocky volcanic soils and moderate climate.

### VINTAGE

- The 2019 vintage in the Napa Valley kicked off with substantial rain in the winter and spring.
- Budbreak and bloom arrived on time, but frost and wind at budbreak & flower reduced yields.
- The growing season was long and even without major heat spikes during the harvest, so color development was maximized.
- Yields were down significantly from the bountiful 2018 vintage, and several passes to drop fruit in the vineyard resulted in explosive flavors in the berries.
- Tannins were high, though ripe and round.

**BLEND:** 98% Zinfandel, 2% Malbec

**HARVEST DATES** 10/8/19

**AVERAGE SUGAR** 25.7° Brix

**TA** 6.0g/L **PH** 3.77

**ALCOHOL** 15.49%

**BARREL AGING:** 18 months in 80% older French oak

**CASES PRODUCED** 148

**PRICE** CA SRP \$65.00