

## 2017 THE STICK CANDLESTICK RIDGE VINEYARD



"The Stick" is our homage to Candlestick Ridge Estate Vineyard, our mountain jewel that sits on Howell Mountain's north summit at 2300'. The site is just a short drive from our Winery Estate Vineyard, but produces fruit of such individual intensity and power that we wanted to create a wine that fully captures special vineyard site. This Bordeaux-inspired estate red is crafted of Cabernet, Merlot and Malbec, and is held back an additional year in bottle to ensure that it is perfectly integrated upon on release.

Our experimentation with the inaugural 2016 vintage of "The Stick" is paying off in spades, and the 2017 release is deep black, integrated and beautifully layered, free of harsh tannin despite its tremendous size and scope. Many 2017 wines were considered somewhat tight and close when released. With a few years of bottle age under their belt, they are proving to be wines of great class and depth, with fantastic aging potential.

## VINEYARD

- Grown at 2300' feet of elevation on our Candlestick Ridge Vineyard.
- Acquired in 2015, along the northern summit ridge of Howell Mountain in close proximity to our Winery Estate Vineyard.
- Candlestick Ridge Vineyard is composed of huge boulders and ash-white soil that is volcanic tufa (tuff), and the low nutrient base produces grapes of terrific intensity.

## VINTAGE

- 2017 kicked off with a wet winter and warm springtime that had the vines cranking.
- Summer saw 2 heat spikes, but the actual ripening period for Mountain Cabernet was fair, cool and prolonged in September.
- 2017 was ideal ... until the devastating fires ripped through Sonoma and Napa counties.
- For the fruit already safe in the cellar, wines extracted easily and exhibited purity of flavor and structure with freshness and finesse.

BLEND 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 10% Malbec

HARVEST DATES 9/11/2017 - 10/16/2017 AVERAGE SUGAR 25.5° Brix

TA 6.2g/L PH 3.82

ALCOHOL 15.07%

BARREL AGING 18 mo. French oak; 70% new/40% 2nd yr. Unfiltered & unfined.

**BOTTLING DATE April 30, 2019** 

CASES PRODUCED 490

PRICE CA SRP \$158.00