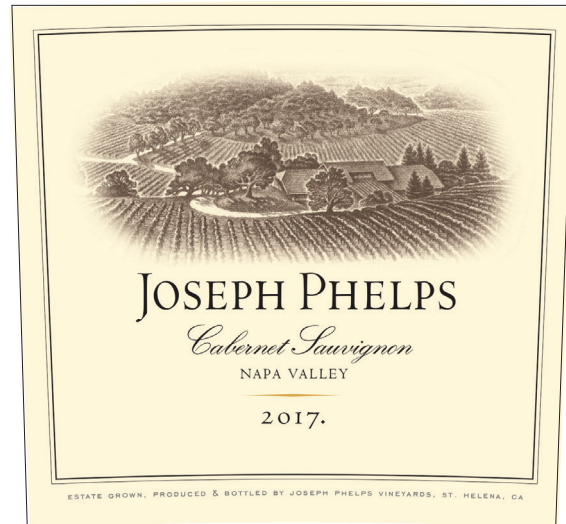


JOSEPH PHELPS



Joseph Phelps Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2017

Winemaking Data

Blend: 92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Malbec, 1% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc from 74% estate and 26% long-term grower vineyards located in St. Helena, South Napa, Oak Knoll District, Rutherford, Stags Leap District and Oakville.

Winemaking Notes: Grapes were sorted at harvest and cold soaked prior to fermentation. The wine was aged for eighteen months in 48% new oak barrels (62% French, 38% American) and 52% one- to two-year-old barrels before bottling. The barrel coopers included Ermitage, François Frères, Demptos (French & American), Canton (American), Dargaud Jaegle, Orion and Taransaud.

The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon has expressive blueberry, boysenberry and baking spice aromatics. A fresh and inviting wine with unfolding layers of juicy raspberry and red cherry, nutmeg, cedar and graphite with a medium-full body, seamless integrated tannins and a lengthy finish.

Growing Season: The 2017 growing season saw much needed record-breaking winter rainfall which helped replenish groundwater and the vines. The cool, wet start to the season delayed budbreak and bloom compared to the three previous years. The summer and fall months were warm with regular heat spikes to ripen the grapes. Overall, 2017 was reminiscent of the 1997 and 2015 growing seasons. The wines lend to fresh, red fruit characteristics with ample and refined tannin levels.

Review: 91 points, "The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon sashays out of the glass with open-knit, alluring baked plums, stewed cherries, mulberries and warm cassis with hints of spice cake, cracked pepper and tobacco leaf. The palate delivers a great intensity of black berry and exotic spice layers, framed by soft tannins and lively freshness, finishing with impressive length." -LPB, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, Oct. 2019