



# 2017 CABERNET FRANC NAPA VALLEY

TITUS



50 YEARS IN NAPA VALLEY

- ESTABLISHED 1969 -

Titus Vineyards is a family owned 50-acre vineyard and winery located at the base of Howell Mountain along the Silverado Trail in the heart of the St. Helena AVA, Napa Valley. In the past 50 years, some of the valley's finest wines including Charles Krug, Beaulieu Vineyards and Cuvaion have originated from our historic vineyards. The modern-day legacy of winemaking and land stewardship is reflected in the characteristic and well balanced wines made here. Our Cabernet Franc program brings together two distinctive vineyards from areas north and south in the Napa Valley.

## VINEYARD

- Our family vineyard is located on 40 acres of Napa Valley floor just north of St. Helena on the Silverado Trail. It has well-drained, sandy, alluvial soils and is characterized by its ability to produce complex wines with well-defined fruit flavors, gentle acids, and naturally balanced tannins.
- Sugarloaf Mtn vineyard in South Napa has a cooler climate yielding Cabernet Franc with graceful floral red fruit notes, silky texture and wonderful concentration.

## VINTAGE

- Despite record rainfalls during the Winter the rain stopped early and budbreak began on time with a full water table and sunny skies through the majority of April.
- May and June brought even weather with good recovery periods after typical heat spells. This led to even flowering and fruit set with a balanced crop hanging on the vines.
- After veraison the region was hit with hotter than normal temperatures during Labor Day Weekend. Judicious fruit dropping after the heat led to a smaller than average crop that ripened evenly and quickly. Cabernet Franc particularly benefits from a lighter fruit load on the vines and late-season heat to optimize mature fruit characters.

## WINEMAKING

The 2017 Titus Cabernet Franc was harvested on October 3rd and October 6th 2017. The Cabernet Franc is a combination from the Titus Estate Vineyard and Sugarloaf Mtn vineyard in South Napa. The combination of slightly cooler climate Cabernet Franc from Sugarloaf and the Titus Cabernet Franc makes for an exciting blend that combines the power of St Helena and the grace and floral notes of the cooler climates of South Napa. The fruit was destemmed directly to tank where it was fermented for 14 days. After fermentation the free run wine was drained from tank and racked to barrel. This wine was aged in 55% new French Oak for 20 months before being racked to tank for bottling. This wine was racked quarterly during the first year.

Vineyard Manager: Eric Titus  
Winemaker: Stephen Cruzan  
Appellation: Napa Valley  
Harvest Date: Oct 3 & Oct 6  
Bottled: May 6, 2019

Blend: 83% Cabernet Franc  
7% Merlot  
6.5% Malbec  
3.5% Cabernet Sauvignon  
Cases Produced: 1043

Barrel Aging: 20 months,  
55% New French Oak  
Alcohol: 14.9% Acidity: 6.6 g/L  
pH: 3.72

## TASTING NOTES

Cabernet Franc is one of our favorite varieties at Titus Vineyards and the 2017 shows off why we love it so much. The wine is fragrant and perfumed with notes of cherry, oolong tea, white pepper, sage flower, fall spices and hibiscus. Silky smooth on entry with a drinkable approach this medium bodied wine glides across the palate with integrated tannins that highlight flavors of cranberry, red plum, rose hip and cardamom. As the wine lengthens the finish extends with orange zest and Mexican chocolate. Enjoy through 2029.