



## 2018 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 Cuvaison 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

- Late season rains and cool temperatures resulted in a slightly later Spring with bud break occurring in the third week of March. Even weather throughout Ample January the Spring allowed the soils to dry out and flowering to occur unabated with balanced berry set happening across all varieties.
- June and July provided ideal weather to help the vines catch up a bit and proceed into veraison in early August. The heat of late Summer and ample crop resulted in a drawn out ripening period; the extended hang time through October allowed the vineyards to develop deep flavors with rich color in the red varieties.
- Harvest for the Cabernet Franc occurred in mid-October. The later harvest date allowed the fruit to be expressive, concentrated and retain its natural acidity.

### WINEMAKING

The 2018 Titus Cabernet Franc was harvested on September 27th from the Titus Ranch Estate and on October 24th 2018 from the Sugarloaf Mtn Vineyard. 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 of Cab Franc characters. This wine combines the power of St Helena and the grace and floral notes of the cooler climates of South Napa. After the fruit was received at the winery it 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: Sept. 27, 2018, Oct 24, 2018

Bottled: May 13, 2020

Blend: 83% Cabernet Franc

8% Merlot

5.5% Malbec

3.5% Cabernet Sauvignon

Cases Produced: 1332

Barrel Aging: 20 months, in

55% new French Oak

Alcohol: 14.9% Acidity: 6.9 g/L

pH: 3.73

### TASTING NOTES

The 2018 Titus Cabernet Franc is a wine filled with the elegance and grace that is indicative of the variety. Aromas of allspice, caraway, cranberry, strawberry jam, and violets lift out of the glass. The smooth entry is filled with notes of dark cherry, pomegranate, cinnamon, and baking spices as the wine glides across the palate. Mouth filling and smooth though the finish the tannins are finely developed with a light touch that leaves the wine lingering with toasty spices and anise. Enjoy through 2030.