# 2019 CABERNET FRANC 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 valleys 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 distinctive character, well balanced wines made here.

## **VINEYARDS**

- Our home 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.
- Our Ehlers Lane vineyard lies to the north of the winery estate, on the northern boundary of the St. Helena AVA. The volcanic slope and rocky stream bed soils yields small Cabernet Sauvignon berries and concentrated fruit.
- Multiple vineyard passes resulted in small lot harvesting that optimizes the timing and selection for ideal fruit maturity.

#### VINTAGE

- The 2019 growing season began with ample January rains that continued through the Winter months. Lower than average temperatures as we moved into Spring pushed bud break off a week or two from the normal window. Unseasonable rains moved in the month of May, which did not affect fruit set due to the delay in flowering. At this point the soil moisture was ideal going into the long summer growing season.
- Mild to warm growing conditions throughout June and July allowed the soil to gradually dry and kept the plants in stress free state leading up to and through veraison. A warm August helped the ample crop move along toward maturity, with September providing ideal conditions for extended hang time to develop color and flavor. Similar to 2018, the majority of the red grape harvest was in October.

# WINEMAKING

The 2019 Titus Cabernet Franc was harvested on October 1st from the Titus Ranch Esate and on October 24th 2019 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 climes of South Napa. After the fruit was recieved 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 65% 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. 2019 Blend: 86% Cabernet Franc 7% Malbec 7% Cabernet Sauvignon Cases Produced: 1400 Barrel Aging: 20 months in 65% New French Oak Alcohol: 14.5% Acidity: 6.1 g/L

pH: 3.67

### TASTING NOTES

The 2019 Titus Cabernet Franc is concentrated, bright and alluring. Aromas of cherry, dried red fruits, sage flower, warm Fall spice and cardamom rise from the first swirls of the glass. The palate has depth and richness with black raspberry, spiced mulberry, anise, and sweet herb notes. The fine-grained tannins give the wine glide as it resolves gracefully to licorice, spice, and incense on the finish. Enjoy through 2032.