

# 2019 MERLOT 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 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 Merlot was harvested on October 12th and 29th 2019. The Merlot is 100% from two blocks at the Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard in Southern 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 55% new French and Hungarian Oak barrels 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  
Bottled: Mav 2021

Blend: 77% Merlot  
17% Malbec  
6% Cabernet Sauvignon  
Cases Produced: 400

Barrel Aging: 20 months in 55% New  
Hungarian Oak  
Alcohol: 14.5%  
Acidity: 5.8 g/L  
pH: 3.70

## TASTING NOTES