

2021 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 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

- Late season rains and cool temperatures meant for a slightly later Spring with bud break occurring in the third week of March. Even weather throughout 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 allowed the vineyards to develop deep flavors with rich color in the red varieties.
- The mid-October harvest dates for the Cabernet Franc allowed the fruit to be expressive, concentrated and retain its natural acidity, yet softened tannins ideally for building a bold yet integrated wine.

WINEMAKING

The 2021 Titus Cabernet Franc was harvested on October 13th from the Titus Ranch Estate and on October 18th, 2021, 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: Oct. 2021
Bottled: May 2023

Blend: 86% Cabernet Franc
7% Malbec
7% Cabernet Sauvignon
Cases Produced: 1400

Barrel Aging: 20 months in 55% New French Oak
Alcohol: 14.8%
Acidity: 5.4 g/L
pH: 3.77

TASTING NOTES

The 2021 Titus Cabernet Franc is expressive, fresh and an exciting example of one of our oldest bottlings. The aromas open with French plum, cherry, and Mexican chocolate while notes of clove, nutmeg and white flower are interlaced with the fruit. The wine is smooth and almost delicate on entry with nicely integrated tannins that have a subtle grip. Concentrated red fruits, strawberry rhubarb and dark chocolate are present leading to graphite and lavender on the finish. Enjoy through 2035.