



# Forman

## 2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2,031 cases 750ml • 75 cases 1.5L • 50 3L bottles

### TASTING NOTES

The 2017 Forman Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is quite a phenomenon. It is nothing less than stunning in every respect yet it came from a hellish summer heat experience. Fortunately, we were almost through fermentation before the Napa Valley fires arrived so the wine at least was spared this malady, even if we personally were not, we were terrified.

As would be expected from a fully ripe batch of fruit the color is properly plush. After the color experience – WOW – what an explosive nose. How did such beautiful, deep, pure and complex character come from the extreme summer?

It can only be explained by the fact that we had an unusually long and wet winter and the vineyard is over 100 feet deep in well-drained gravel. The roots go deep and allow for unusual survival.

One wonders if the 2017 was made from blackberries, blueberries or loganberries. All of these beautiful aromas are present plus much more. The 70% new barrel regime is barely noticeable as there is so much fruit to dominate.

Flavors, like the aromas, are explosive. Deep berry, some toasty oak, ample extract and perfect balance makes this one very exciting to drink. The 2017 will last a very long time but is also massively drinkable now.

Do not miss out on this one!

#### *Stats:*

***Harvest September 7-28, 2017***

***Average Brix at harvest 26.2***

***Blend – 78% Cabernet Sauvignon;***

***12% Cabernet Franc; 6% Petite Verdot; 4% Merlot***

***Aged: 22 months; 70% new,***

***30% once used Bordeaux barrels***

***Alcohol 14.9%***

***Total Acidity 0.53 g/100 ml***

***pH 3.88***

***Glucose/Fructose 0.03/100ml (dry)***

***Malolactic: Positive***

***Bottled June 13-14, 2019***

### RIC'S VINTAGE NOTES

I am very excited about the quality of the 2017 Cabernet. I have been blessed for the last 37 years to create my dream wine from this incredibly unusual vineyard. Thanks to Dr. David Howell, a renowned PhD Geologist, I now have an understanding of why my vineyard is so special. Dr. Howell visited the property upon my request two years ago and is known for studying world-class vineyards. Through geological inspection he is able to explain their uniqueness.

***The Forman Grande Roche Vineyard, the lower parcel name, composed solely of unconsolidated river gravel is similar to the vineyards of Bordeaux-Medoc, which is composed of river gravels sourced from the Pyrenees. There are no other vineyards known in the Napa Valley that have these characteristics.***

***The adjoining vineyard up the hill from the Grande Roche is composed of volcanic andesite and possibly basalt. The combination of these two very different vineyards helps explain the complexity of the Forman Vineyard red wine, which is a blend of four Bordeaux varieties sourced from each of the two contrasting vineyards.***

***-David Howell  
PhD Geologist***

So, a vineyard resembling those of Bordeaux and unique to all other of the Napa Valley – that did explain a lot! My long-time friend and former partner, David Abreu, said many times that my Cabernet reminded him of a wine from Pauillac. Forman Vineyard Cabernet is uniquely site recognizable and the 2017 is a beautiful rendition.