

INK GRADE



2021 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



The Ink Grade Estate Vineyard claims a magical view unknown to most in the Napa Valley, high in the northeast corner of the Howell Mountain AVA. Terraced throughout, due to the extreme slopes, this mountainside vineyard clings to volcanic “tufa” soils. Ink Grade Estate possesses a raw tension that renders fruit of immense intensity and depth. If ever there was a site that imparted a feeling of reverence, Ink Grade is such a place.

AN ELEVATED EXPRESSION OF MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

The varying and distinctive landscape of the parcels meticulously selected for our Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon offer a wine of complexity and incredible breadth. Incorporating a portion of Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, this wine possesses bright acidity and structured mountain tannins, distinct in its ability to be enjoyed at a youthful stage.

2021 VINTAGE HIGHLIGHTS

“Our 2021 Napa Valley Cabernet emerges from the glass with aromas of mulberry and blackcurrants, complicated by a Howell Mountain *garrigue* of bay laurel, pine resin, madrone blossom, fennel flowers, manzanita flowers, plus notes of lavender, tarragon, and jasmine tea. Baking spices like nutmeg and clove are found too, with savory cured meat tones. On the palate the wine has wonderful fullness and firm tannin that is accentuated by buttressing acidity. While you can enjoy it now, this wine is still in its infancy and will develop for two decades, possibly more.”

— Matt Taylor, January 2025

AVA: 87% NAPA VALLEY, 13% HOWELL MOUNTAIN

HARVEST DATE: 9.8.2021 – 10.14.2021

VARIETAL COMPOSITION:
94% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 6% MERLOT

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

AGING: 9 MONTHS (60% IN NEW FRENCH OAK, 40% IN OAK TANK), FOLLOWED BY 26 MONTHS (20% IN OAK CASK, 80% IN FRENCH OAK BARRELS, 60% NEW)

VINEYARD BLOCK: LOST CLOUD, BUD-DHA'S BELLY, BEAR BLUFF, LONE BASIN, PUMPHOUSE, COLISEUM, 3'S HOLLOW, UPWARD DESCENT, LANGoustine

PRODUCTION: 2,143 9L CASES

Product contains sulfites.