

INK GRADE

2022 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

INK GRADE IS HOWELL MOUNTAIN'S GREATEST CLASSICAL ESTATE

- Ink Grade comprises 800 wild acres, of which 200 are farmed organically and biodynamically since their planting over 35 years ago.
- The Napa Valley Cabernet is a complex wine with incredible breadth, typically with around 15% Howell Mountain fruit.
- This wine features more supple tannins, accentuated by the slightly warmer temperatures of lower elevation vineyards, and a shorter élevage (three years in large and small format French oak, of which 40-50% is new).

94 POINTS, DECANTER

"From a lower section of the Ink Grade Estate, below 425 metres, this vineyard sits just outside the Howell Mountain AVA, making it part of the Napa Valley AVA. Aged 24 months in roughly 50% new French oak, it shares a similar profile to the Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon, but with a more generous fruit expression, leaning into the black fruit spectrum. The tannins are sturdily structured yet more approachable, with less grip but plenty of depth. Notes of bay laurel add a savoury complexity, while the wine finishes with a crunchy acidity that keeps it bright and lively. A more accessible yet still profound expression of the Ink Grade estate."

JONATHAN CRISTALDI, FEBRUARY 2025

