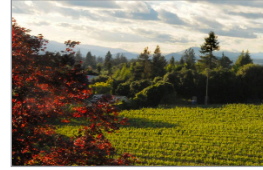


# 2017 ROBERT CRAIG WINERY

## AFFINITY



**WINEMAKER:** Jason Price  
**REGION:** Napa Valley, California  
**VARIETALS:** Cabernet Sauvignon (76%), Merlot (8%), Cabernet Franc (6%), Malbec (5%) Petit Verdot (5%)  
**MATURATION:** 18 months in 60% new French oak  
**ANALYSIS:** 14.6% alc/vol | TA: 5.7 g/L | pH: 3.87

**VINTAGE:** The 2017 harvest was the first in the area following a 5 year drought. The soils and water table had been replenished and the vines took off early in the season and weather patterns were about normal until late August. In early September heat spikes hit the valley and set record or near record temperatures. With plenty of water available most vineyards were heavily irrigated and the temperatures cooled in mid-September to more normal levels. The quantity of grapes was quite low but quality looks to be excellent. A huge wildfire at the end of harvest threatened vines that still had fruit but luckily the vast majority of grapes were already safely in the winery for the year.

**TERROIR:** Just south of Stag's Leap, nestled in Coombsville's Mt. George Foothills on the eastern side of the Napa Valley, the La Londe estate vineyard has produced exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon for the Robert Craig portfolio since Bob Craig purchased the property back in 1993. As a hillside, cane-pruned site that bears just 3.5 tons per acre, the 30-year-old vines allow a rare display of the volcanic, stony soils in the finished wines. Grapes are small, deeply black flavored, and undeniably racy with a big backbone of acidity.

**TASTING NOTES:** The 2017 Affinity Cabernet is gorgeous, with up-front aromas of black cherry, blueberry pie, dried floral tones and a dose of baking spices. Blueberry pie and plum emerge on the bright palate, which offers both grip and angularity on a long, lingering finish.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 92 pts JamesSuckling.com

**ABOUT ROBERT CRAIG WINERY:** With a passion for Napa Valley Mountain Cabernet, Bob Craig founded his eponymous winery on Howell Mountain with three friends from business school. In 2004, CEO Elton Slone joined the winery and became a full partner in 2007. Following Bob's retirement and departure from the wine business in 2012, Slone has continued to move the business forward with the other three founding partners. Known for producing small-lot, site-expressive wines from high elevation vineyards, Robert Craig Winery consistently garners high scores and positive accolades from the wine press.

