

HARVEST:

Robert Craig Winery

Napa Valley, California

"Robert Craig Winery remains under the radar for high quality, impressive wines."



- Robert Parker Wine Advocate

Elton Slone

FOUNDED: 1990 by Bob Craig CLIMATE: Mediterranean **WINEMAKER:** Jason Price (Keith Emerson, consulting) Volcanic and sedimentary soils 120 acres with 38 planted VARIETIES ••••• **PLANTED:**

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, Zinfandel, Chardonnay

STEWARDSHIP: The winery is Certified Napa Green. Estate vineyards are Fish Friendly Farming certified. In 2023, the Mt Veeder vineyard will be certified organic. Both Howell Mtn vineyards are in process of organic certification, to be completed in 2024.

WEBSITE: www.robertcraigwine.com

September to October







Winery Estate at the summit of Howell Mountain

PROFILE: With a passion for Napa Valley Mountain Cabernet, Bob Craig founded his eponymous winery on Howell Mountain in 1990. Known for producing smalllot, site-expressive wines from high elevation vineyards, Robert Craig Winery consistently garners high scores and positive accolades from the wine press. Since 2013, the winery has expanded its vineyard holdings beyond their physical and spiritual home on Howell Mountain, and now utilizes 85% estate-grown fruit, due to their significant vineyard acquisitions not only in the Howell Mountain AVA, but in the Mount Veeder and Coombsville AVAs as well. Owning these diverse, coveted vineyard sources allows the team to deliver exceptional quality wine, while remaining competitively priced from Napa Valley.

VITICULTURE: Robert Craig Winery is known for crafting small-lot, site-expressive wines from high elevation vineyards. Their estate vineyard holdings, which have grown from eight acres in 1993 to 120 acres today, enable Robert Craig to deliver a collection of wines that offers a pure expression of terroir from each site. Each vineyard delivers 3 tons per acre or less; these clusters provide small berries packed with intense flavor. They are handharvested at lower brix levels resulting in wines with low PH, high acid and high tannin expression. Gentle handling contributes to the wine's finesse; in the winery, there is no fining, filtration or oxidation to soften tannins. This non-interventionist approach has paid dividends and the wines are balanced and very enjoyable while young, yet are much more age-worthy than the earliest Robert Craig vintages.



THE WINES

Since 2013, Robert Craig Winery has increased its sourcing from 25% up to 85% estate-grown fruit. Significant vineyard acquisitions on Howell Mountain, Mount Veeder and in Coombsville allow Robert Craig Winery to maintain exceptional quality and site expression, while keeping their wine prices from skyrocketing into the Napa Cult Cab stratosphere.



AFFINITY CABERNET SAUVIGNON: Sourced from the La Londe vineyard, Affinity Cabernet represents one of the single best bargains for collectible, age-worthy Napa Valley Cabernet.

HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON: The tiny berry size from these estate vineyards delivers plentiful tannin because of the high skin-to-juice ratio.

SPRING MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON: The biodynamically farmed vineyard requires patience and attention to detail, yet the resulting wines have fantastic color and intensity.

MOUNT VEEDER CABERNET SAUVIGNON: Hailing from the Amentet Vineyard (1700 ft) on Mt. Veeder, this powerful, structured wine offers beautiful black and blue fruits with notes of graphite, crushed rock and lavender.

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON: Low yields at just over 2 tons per acre produce this massive, structured Cabernet each year. Production is always sparse, yet it is a wine worth seeking out.

HOWELL MOUNTAIN CUVÉE: This wine shows all the deep color, structure and complexity that one might expect from Howell Mountain. A generous portion of Merlot allows for a supple mouthfeel.

HOWELL MOUNTAIN MERLOT: A full-throttle Merlot experience with all the tannin structure and backbone that Howell Mountain brings. It couples exotic perfume in the nose and dark cassis and wild bramble on the palate.

GAP'S CROWN CHARDONNAY: Sourced from vineyards known for quality, this is the winery's only white wine: age-worthy, structured, vibrant and racy.

HOWELL MOUNTAIN ZINFANDEL: Zinfandel thrives in the mountain's well-drained, rocky volcanic soils and moderate climate. Without a doubt, the Black Sears Vineyard is one of the finest vineyards in the world.

HOWELL MOUNTAIN "THE STICK" RED BLEND: A Cabernet Sauvignon blend, sourced from the Candlestick Ridge Vineyard located at 2300 feet on Howell Mountain.





Candlestick Ridge Vineyard on Howell Mountain, Napa Valley AVA



Amentent Vineyard on Mount Veeder, Napa Valley AVA



Founder Bob Craig & wife Lynn