

# 2019 ROBERT CRAIG WINERY

## HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON



**WINEMAKER:** Jason Price  
**REGION:** Napa Valley, California  
**VARIETALS:** Cabernet Sauvignon (92%), Malbec (6%), Petit Verdot (2%)  
**MATURATION:** 18 months in 80% new French oak  
**ANALYSIS:** 14.8% alc/vol | pH: 3.70 | TA: 5.8 g/L

**VINTAGE:** This remarkable vintage echoed in the mountains of the Napa Valley and in particular Howell Mountain. Copious rain early in the year, then frost and wind at budbreak and flowering reduced yields. However, no rainfall from August through October, and mild temperatures allowed for optimal hangtime and choices of picking dates. The 2019 vintage provided tiny yields and small, uniform bunches made for wine with unparalleled intensity in the history of Robert Craig Winery. Though the tannin structure is off the charts each year, the tannins are supple and round, allowing a measure of grace in youth for such a long lived wine.

**TERROIR:** This wine comes primarily from the 9.5-acre Winery Estate Vineyard, with the addition of old vine lots from Candlestick Ridge Vineyard. Both vineyards sit at 2300 feet along the summit ridge. The Howell Mountain AVA begins at 1400 feet and includes vineyards that sit above the inversion layer and fog line.

**TASTING NOTES:** Currents of lavender, cedar and rich plum run through the bouquet. On the palate, energy abounds, and tannins are ripe, round, and lovely, providing the scaffolding for copious black berry, dark plum and cassis flavors which are ultimately finely structured with depth, density and length.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 97 pts Vinous, 96 pts Decanter, 94+ pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate

**ABOUT ROBERT CRAIG WINERY:** With a passion for Napa Valley Mountain Cabernet, Bob Craig founded his eponymous winery in 1990 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.

