

2020 ROBERT CRAIG WINERY

HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON



WINEMAKER: Jason Price
REGION: Napa Valley, California
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon (88%), Malbec (9%), Merlot (3%)
MATURATION: 20 months in French oak (45% new)
ANALYSIS: 14.8% alc/vol | pH 3.73 | TA: 6.0

VINTAGE: The happy accident of removing too much protective leaf cover in August, after an unusually cool, wet Spring and moderate Summer put things behind schedule in the vineyard. When temperatures soared in September on Howell Mountain, the early ripening blocks on Candlestick Ridge Vineyard and at the Winery Estate Vineyard were quickly picked and processed - prior to the major wildfires that impacted some Napa Valley harvests. The fruit that hit the crush pad was deeply colored and high in tannins and acidity. In other words, this provided excellent structure. This is the 30th consecutive vintage released of this 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: A classic rendition of Howell Mountain Cabernet featuring red stone minerality, thorny black fruit accents, and suppleness in the mid palate.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: Not yet rated. Last vintage: 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.

