

## **2021 CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

Leonardini Vineyard St. Helena, Napa Valley

The Davies family, proprietors of Schramsberg Vineyards and Davies Vineyards in Napa Valley, presents its second bottling of the St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon. Building upon its experience with its home property on Diamond Mountain in the valley's western Mayacamas Range, this bottling represents the Davies team's effort with Cabernet Sauvignon from this famed mid-valley appellation. Second-generation Vintner Hugh Davies, VP of Winemaking Sean Thompson and Consultant Celia Welch have collaborated well together since 2008 in crafting Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons, and they are very proud to present this unique vineyard-designate bottling from the 2021 vintage.

Approximately 20 miles north of the San Francisco and San Pablo Bays, and nestled between the Mayacamas and Vaca Mountain ranges, lies appellation St. Helena. The hourglass shape of this appellation's geography, and its distance from the cool waters of the Bay and the Pacific Ocean, set this historic location apart from any other growing region. Vineyards are located on ancient alluvial fans, that sweep toward the Napa River. Consistent heat is locked in during the day and is amplified by the hillsides; at night, that same slender width funnels moderating breezes to dramatically cool the vines, sometimes by as much as 40 to 50 degrees. This extreme shift in temperature helps the fruit retain ideal balance and acidity.

The Leonardini Vineyard was first planted to grapes in the late 1800's when the Lewelling Family settled on a large tract of land on the southern outskirts of St. Helena. The old-time farmers of the area said that the soil, Cortina Gravely Loam, in this particular area was renowned for "black" wine grapes. However, the quality of the harvests varied greatly depending on seasonal rainfall due to the fast draining soils. This wine is crafted from two distinct blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon, creating depth of color and flavor.

Following a second consecutive dry winter, spring's bud break and flowering activity occurred two weeks earlier than normal. Vines would ultimately carry a light crop in 2021; summer heat spikes nudged the small-sized berries and clusters to even ripeness. Our Cabernet Sauvignon harvest began at the end of mid-September and carried into mid-October, delivering fruit with bright and balanced concentration.



## **Tasting Notes**

"Our 2021 Leonardini Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon supplies aromas of raspberry, black plum, nutmeg, and black pepper, layered with notes or herbs and complex forest floor. The palate features a rich and powerful entry of cherry and opulent fruit, with subtle hints of espresso bean and dark cocoa. The long and sturdy finish carries the generous core to a graceful end."

- Winemakers Jessica Koga, Sean Thompson and Hugh Davies - Consulting Winemaker Celia Welch

Varietal Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvingon
Appellation: St. Helena, Napa Valley
Vineyard: Leonardini Vineyard

Barrel Aging: 20 months in 56% new French oak
Coopers: Boutes, Taransaud, Ermitage, Vicard G7

Alcohol: 14.8%

TA: 0.56 g/100 mL

pH: 3.83

Harvest Dates: October 14, 2021

Bottling Date: July 17, 2023

Release Date: August 1, 2024

Cases Produced: 400 (9 liter)

Suggested Retail: \$130 Available Format: 750 mL