

# DARMS LANE

*Napa Valley*



## 2016 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, BON PASSE VINEYARD, NAPA VALLEY

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**VINEYARD:** The Estate Bon Passe Vineyard is located in the southwestern bench lands of Napa Valley, in the Oak Knoll District appellation. The vineyard is comprised of both hillsides and valley floor, with varying soil types. As a result, we harvest our six blocks separately to take advantage of the different lots and add complexity to our wines.

**APPELLATION:** Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley

**GROWING SEASON NOTES:** The 2016 vintage started out very similar to the 2015 vintage with a mild February leading to an earlier bud break of late March for the Cabernet Sauvignon at our estate vineyard. May, June, and July were consistently warm and pleasant leading to expectations of another extremely early harvest. But with a lack of extreme heat spikes in August and September and moderate temperatures, we were able to let the fruit hang and gradually ripen. Several nice warm spells the last week in September and first weeks of October pushed the grapes to a lovely ripeness. We harvested Cabernet Sauvignon on October 7th and both the Cab and Petit Verdot on October 12th before season ending rain hit the Valley a couple days later. An all-around classic vintage.

**VARIETAL:** 95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot

**WINEMAKER:** Brian Mox

**BARREL AGING:** 22 months in Oak – 40% new: 90% French, 10% American

**WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES:** Our 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon reveals notes of cassis, cherry, hints of tasty oak and a nice savory component. Entry has sweet jammy red fruit with tangy cherry pie flavors evolving into blackberry and chocolate. As is typical with the Bon Passe Cab, it possesses concentration and tannin backbone. The finesse and elegance of this wine are best shown with aeration, decanting and cellaring. The density of the palate, the ripe fruit, and savory flavor profile make it an ideal pairing for grilled meats and hearty dishes.

**PRODUCTION:** 600 cases

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