

# DARMS LANE

*Napa Valley*



## 2017 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 2017 vintage started out with a wet winter that brought us out of drought conditions. The mild spring led to steady early growth and flowering. High heat in August led to a harvest a few days earlier than 2016. On October 8<sup>th</sup> a fire broke out on the east side of the valley with two additional fires starting in the northern end of the valley and a fire to the east that moved into Sonoma county. All the fruit in the Estate Bon Passe is comprised of blocks harvested prior to October 8<sup>th</sup>. We harvested both Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**VARIETAL:** 98% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Merlot

**WINEMAKER:** Brian Mox

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

**WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES:** Our 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon reveals notes of blackberry and bright ripe cherry with hints of toasty oak. Entry is refined and full with red fruit and dark fruit flavors evolving into cassis and cocoa. As with other vintages of Bon Passe Cab, it possesses concentration and a fine 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