

WILLIAMS SELYEM



2020 Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III Cabernet Sauvignon

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Fresh and alluring, the wine opens with notes of plum and boysenberry. The fruit aromas are interlaced with elements of allspice and cedar with a hint of citrus. Layered and complex, notes of dried cherries and dark chocolate add depth to the wine. The typical Rutherford dustiness completes the wine with elegance. A palate-staining wine, the tannins are robust yet refined. The growing season was abundant in sunshine, resulting in a thick skin, which translates into a rich tannin structure. Hints of red fruits and dried cherry permeate the palate and the finish has a dusty, chocolate texture.

HARVEST 2020

The 2020 growing season started out very dry and bud break was delayed. Early spring rains recharged the soil profile, but periods of extreme cold caused many frost events throughout the Russian River Valley. Late spring yielded ample sunshine and moderate temperatures, and the plants responded very well with excellent canopy growth. The season ended up approximately 12% warmer than average and did not have any heat spikes until August. Harvest started in haste on August 12, ahead of an extreme heat wave. On the night of August 17, the weather changed and there was a rare dry lightning storm that sparked a fire on a hillside in remote west Sonoma County; later named the Walbridge Fire. In the Russian River Valley, it took a number of days for smoke to settle. Based on test results for smoke taint on the grapes, several coastal vineyards were not picked. For the vineyards which were picked, either before the fire or before the smoke settled, the result was concentrated wines with a darker, more brooding complexion. The polish of the tannin, coupled with excellent concentration, should allow for a wide drinking window.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 100% new
Barrel Aged: 20 months
pH: 3.40
TA: 0.61g/100mL
Alc: 14.9%
Released 2023

