



# SCATTERED PEAKS

cabernet sauvignon - napa valley, california

*Scattered Peaks is an elevated spin on Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon carefully curated and elegantly crafted by wine industry icon, Derek Benham and legendary Napa Valley Winemaker, Joel Aiken. Leveraging their deep passion for – and long history within – the California wine industry, Derek and Joel source exceptional fruit from coveted regions throughout Napa Valley. Their plunder is then aged in carefully selected oak barrels and artfully blended to achieve high levels of quality and experience.*

## VINTAGE 2015

California was blessed by an outstanding vintage in 2015 despite drought conditions, light yields and a very early harvest. A mild winter fostered early bud break and bloom, however, unseasonably cold spring temperatures followed which resulted in smaller berries and grape clusters. Summer was warm and dry which hastened ripening and growers began picking in late August with all grapes in by the end of October – a very compact harvest season! Cabernet Sauvignon of this vintage displays firm tannins, dense black fruit character and deep color.

## WINEMAKING

In 2015, the grapes were harvested when they attained brix levels between 24° - 25° and had achieved physiologically ripeness when the fruit is most flavorful and mildly acidic. The grapes were picked during the cool early morning hours and delivered to the winery where they were sorted, de-stemmed and cold soaked for four days prior to fermentation. Post-primary fermentation, extended maceration took place, with thrice daily pump overs, a technique that creates more supple wines with greater aging ability and fewer bitter tannins. Finally, the wine was racked into French oak barrels for ML fermentation and 18 months of aging.

## TASTING NOTES

Scattered Peaks offers intense black and red fruit aromas bolstered by hints of mountain sage and a touch of anise. On the palate, dark brooding fruit flavors of black cherry and cassis mingle with essence of black licorice and violets as well as espresso and dark chocolate notes. Firm and silky tannins and a touch of vanilla support the long, lingering finish of this classic Napa Valley Cabernet.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- Appellation: Napa Valley
- Varietal Composition: 93% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc, 1% Malbec
- pH: 3.61
- TA: 0.58 g/100ml
- Aging: 18 months in French Oak, 50% new. Coopers: Boutes, Nadalié, TW Boswell
- Alcohol by Volume: 14.5%