



2016 JOHN C. SULLENGER VINEYARD®

Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The home vineyard of Nickel & Nickel, Sullenger Vineyard is situated behind the winery in the heart of Oakville and is named for John C. Sullenger, who settled the farmstead in the 1880's. The vineyard's 30 acres of clay loam soil are planted exclusively to Cabernet Sauvignon, with 2 rootstocks and a few different clones which each add a unique element to the resulting wine.

HARVEST NOTES

The 2016 growing season proceeded as usual for Napa Valley with a nice spring that led to a warm summer. Budbreak was about five days later than last year and this trend continued throughout the season. Slightly cooler weather in May lengthened the bloom window but warm summer days in June and July helped the vines catch up to normal. The crop looked good with clusters that had a nice leaf coverage allowing for speckled light. August brought both cool and hot weather, so we kept a close eye on each block.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2016 Sullenger Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon opens with beautiful plum, black cherry and plum aromas underscored by delicate notes of herb and earth. Layers of soft, juicy cherry flavors spread across the palate, while firm yet silky tannins are balanced by bright natural acidity on the finish. The resulting wine possesses a lushness and depth that is both immediately approachable yet structured to evolve beautifully over time.

APPELLATION

Oakville, Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING

French oak barrels
(48% new, 52% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

May 2019

HARVEST DATES

September 30 – October 05, 2016

SKIN CONTACT

17 days

TIME

18 months

FIRST VINTAGE

1997