

2016 Smith Story Wine Cellars

Cabernet Sauvignon, Pickberry Vineyard, Sonoma Mountain

Vineyard Location:

Soil Type: Gravelly loam, volcanic

Climate: Hot days, cool Sonoma Mountain evenings.

Elevation: Approx. 700 Feet

Exposure: Northeastern

Year(s) Planted: First blocks planted in 1982

Harvest Date:

October 6th, 2016

Tech:

500 Cases/Brix: 24.9/Alc: 14%

Tasting Notes:

A Cabernet Sauvignon, without question on the nose. A Cabernet true to the Smith story style; cooler and dancing aromatic while having density and layers of texture. Lots of spicy red fruits up front while fresh bramble fruits bounce around the palate which is rounded out by a savory, almost cinnamon-bark spice mouth filing finish and pretty tannin structure.

It's wildly similar to our 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon. If opening right away, decant a few hours. The wine is a little tight out of the gates but showing nice herb and pepper notes - the salty minerality shows up on the back end of the palate as it airs.

Eric's Notes: Steady and mostly uneventful growing season with a bit of midsummer spikes of heat but nothing maddening. A cool slow end of the growing season led to really pretty and balanced fruit. We did get lucky though... we had some rain come in just a few days after picking. Speaking of... the grapes were hand picked. hand sorted, destemmed and fermented in stainless steel with daily manual punch-downs. Wine was then aged in neutral Bordeaux barrels for 22 months before bottling.

Ali's Notes: This was the vineyard I spent the most time in during the 2016 Harvest. There's a magical view that just pulls me in mixed with an incredible assortment of vineyard rocks popping up throughout the vines. The end of the vineyard rows always had the most gorgeous blooming red roses too. I often sat under the big shade tree on top of the hillside and took it all in. I was there the morning of the pick, the vineyard workers were full of song and hustle. So much TLC was given during harvest.

This wine is an old soul. I feel closer to it than all of the wines we produce, filled with excitement to show off to the world. A rebel of sorts, a Cabernet Sauvignon that is for the curious wine drinker for sure. The 2016 is going to be a showstopper complete with a standing ovation. I can't wait to see it on stage. Worth the wait.



93pts. AG, Vinous.com

\$68 SRP

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