

CATERWAUL

2021 CATERWAUL SONOMA COUNTY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

NOTES

The fruit for this bottling was sourced from the southeast corner of Sonoma County, almost touching the Napa County line. We were awestruck when we had the opportunity to purchase such high-quality old vine Cabernet Sauvignon from a site defined by gravelly loam soils in the shadow of Mount Saint Helena. This wine starts with opulent, mouth-coating, sleek dark fruit. The wine shows off an inky purple hue in the glass with a saturated violet halo. Vivid aromas suggest notes of roasted meat, cigar box, and crushed blueberries. The sumptuous palate expresses notes of currant reduction, cocoa, wild sage and dried black cherry. The plush, round mouthfeel is framed by exotic notes of baking spices and a fine tannin framework. We are so excited to see this wine come to life and believe this will be a benchmark for exceptional quality Sonoma County Cabernet Sauvignon at a fabulous price point.

VINTAGE

Like many of the finest vintages in Napa and Sonoma counties, 2021 was marked by high quality and low yields. Throughout the early growing season and into late Spring this area received almost no precipitation, continuing another year of drought conditions. The vines responded appropriately, setting a small crop load. Specific vineyard practices we instituted included leaving extra leaf coverage in the fruiting zone to protect the small berries and clusters from getting excessive exposure to heat and direct sunlight.

The silver lining here is that the quality of the fruit on the vines was outstanding, and we had a long harvest window with no inclement weather forcing our hand on when to pick. With unlimited hang time, we were patient and waited until the fruit had reached full phenological maturity. This resulted in beautiful finished wines which possess great color, depth, power, and complexity.

PARTNERSHIP

A partnership between Matt Hardin and Thomas Brown was formed during the 2014 vintage after countless years of working together. Out of that friendship the idea of utilizing the strengths of one another gave birth to Caterwaul wines. Matt Hardin, a 6th generation Pope Valley resident and farmer, is owner of Hardin Vineyard Management, one of the most renowned vineyard management companies in Northern California as well as his own Matthew Wallace Wines. Thomas Rivers Brown, winemaker for some of Napa and Sonoma's most iconic labels (Schrader Cellars, Outpost and his own Rivers-Marie & Aston), has more than 50 100-point wines to his resume.



APPELLATION:

Sonoma County

VARIETAL:

Cabernet Sauvignon

BARREL AGING:

100% French Oak

50% New

18 months in Barrel

ALCOHOL:

14.5%

TOTAL PRODUCTION:

1706 Cases