

CATERWAUL

2021 CATERWAUL REGUSCI VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

NOTES

Acid driven sites like Regusci Vineyard benefitted the most from the structure first 2021 vintage. There's a completeness to this wine at release that separates it from all the vintages that came before it. That can also be attributed to our better understanding of what makes this site so special. Every year we have refined the selection within block 3 by focusing more on a vine by vine approach. We mitigated drought conditions at Regusci with a combination of vine maturity and moving around in the block a little to search for vine balance. Everyone likes to chase the best drained, most challenging soils but in a growing season like 2021, the more traditionally vigorous sections of the vineyard tended to be better. Soils with better water holding capacity were necessary for full canopy development and optimum ripening conditions. The 2021 Regusci continues the more savory expression we see from this site every year. It always leads with a sanguine edge and turns quickly to bay leaf, black olive and crushed stones. The floral quality here is more violet tinged complementing a palate of dark chocolate, blue and black fruits, incense and spice. Acidity helps frame and prolong the finish cutting into all the structure and density 2021 provided.

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:

Stag's Leap District

VARIETAL:

Cabernet Sauvignon

BARREL AGING:

100% French Oak

85% New

20 months in Barrel

ALCOHOL:

14.5%

TOTAL PRODUCTION:

272 Cases