

CATERWAUL

2024 CATERWAUL PHELAN RANCH VINEYARD NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

NOTES

Our 2024 Phelan Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon is sourced exclusively from the Elizabeth Block, perched near the crest of this remote ridgetop vineyard. It is a wine that speaks clearly of its site. The nose reflects the rugged terrain with brambly fruit, crushed stone, and striking minerality, layered with graphite, cherrywood, blackberry conserve, and a subtle note of warm tar. A vibrant thread of natural acidity weaves through the wine, lifting the aromatics and bringing remarkable energy to a palate of serious depth and concentration. Despite its power, the wine remains remarkably composed. Fine-grained tannins and a mineral backbone carry the fruit, while the finish seems to gather momentum, becoming more expansive and complex as it runs. There is an extraordinary amount to discover here—a Cabernet that rewards close attention today and promises even greater nuance and expression with time in the cellar.

VINTAGE

Following the recent pattern of above average rainfall and a cooler start to the growing season, 2024 mirrored the previous vintage until the end of September. A late, intense heat spell proved to be the finishing touch on a great vintage by providing an event that concentrated flavor within the grapes. Rewarding an extra dimension to those who were patient, the wines found another gear in intensity and brooding tannin. Tasting through the fermentations during harvest, the consistency of quality from one vineyard or tank to the next left little doubt about the character of the vintage.

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, marking his 31st harvest in Napa, continues to craft benchmark wines for regions and varieties grown throughout Northern California for longtime partners and intrepid new projects.



APPELLATION:
Napa Valley

VARIETAL:
Cabernet Sauvignon

BARREL AGING:
100% French Oak, 85% New,
21 Months in barrel

ALCOHOL:
14.9%

TOTAL PRODUCTION:
120 Cases