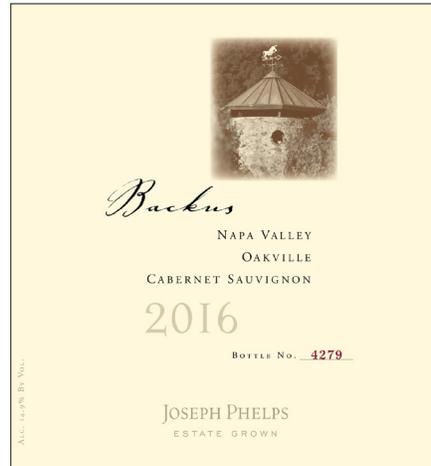


JOSEPH PHELPS



Joseph Phelps Cabernet Sauvignon Backus Vineyard, Oakville, Napa Valley 2016

Winemaking Data

Harvest Dates: September 16-27, 2016.

Blend: 88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Malbec and 5% Petit Verdot from our Backus Vineyard in Oakville, Napa Valley.

Aging: 24 months in 100% new French oak barrels from coopers Taransaud, Marcel Cadet and Darnajou.

Winemaking Notes: Each block at Backus Vineyard remains separate during picking and fermentation. The complexity of this vineyard can be highlighted through the fruit and depth found in the North and Plateau blocks paired with the structure and concentration in the steep hillside fruit grown in the South block.

The 2016 vintage expresses rich red and dark fruit, fragrant violets, rose petals, graphite and black tea aromatics. A wine of great distinction, it melds power and structure with freshness and elegance in seamless layers of ultra-concentrated blueberry and black cherry with hints of baking spices and cassis to a lengthy finish.

Growing Season: The 2016 Napa Valley growing season began with a mild winter resulting in early bud break for some blocks at the beginning of March. A normal period of bloom and veraison took place in early May and mid-July, respectively. The 2016 growing season was cooler compared to the previous three vintages, allowing for aromas and flavors to develop slowly in the red varieties yielding classic Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon from our Backus Vineyard.

Review: 98 Points, "Deep garnet-purple colored, it charges out of the gate with bold blackberry pie, black currant pastilles and warm blueberries notes with touches of menthol, mocha, cardamom, iron ore and cinnamon stick plus a waft of black olives. The full-bodied palate delivers mouth-coating black and blue fruits with a vast array of earth and spicy sparks, framed by firm, grainy tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and mineral laced." -LPB, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, Oct. 2019