



2021 Hesperian Cabernet Sauvignon

Witha, Napa Valley

Description

“Witha,” the Wappo Indian word for West. Witha is made from a blend of Kitoko Vineyard and Upstream Vineyard in Coombsville. The Kitoko fruit is picked on the early side to bring freshness, tension and fresh fruits. 35% of the fruit comes from Upstream and is picked last; it brings weight and a fleshier body to the wine.

Vineyard

65% of this wine comes from earlier picks from the Kitoko Vineyard, specifically from the North Face parcel that has the steepest slopes of the vineyard. Named for the Congolese Lingala word for “beautiful,” Kitoko is a 14.2-acre vineyard high on Atlas Peak, planted to Cabernet Sauvignon in 2000 and 2003. The soils here are extremely rocky, dry, and poor, quite like Pritchard Hill to the north, studded with fractured andesite rock and boulders. The remaining 35% of the wine comes from the Upstream vineyard in Coombsville.

Harvest

Rains fell throughout winter but only small amounts every time. No Pineapple express this year! Bud break mid-April followed by a very pleasant early season. Water availability was a challenge this year and we had to be very careful with our water use. Summer growing conditions were exceptionally good. The Growing Degree-Days (GDD) for 2021 were right in the middle of the pack when compared with recent growing seasons. Harvest lasted from the 4th to the 19th of October in numerous small harvests.

ALCOHOL LEVEL: 13.9%
CÉPAGE: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
ÉLEVAGE: 20 Months in French oak, 53.8% new,
38.5% once-used and 7.7% twice-used.
PRODUCTION: 325 cases
OPTIMAL AGING: 2025 - 2034