



2022 Hesperian Cabernet Sauvignon

Witha, Napa Valley

Description

Witha is made from a blend of Kitoko Vineyard and Upstream vineyard in Coombsville. The lots that come from Kitoko are picked early and Upstream is always picked late. The various blocks are as follow: 44.2% Upstream (Coombsville), 35.8% Pond block, 20% North Face.

Vineyard

Kitoko Vineyard, named for the Congolese Lingala word for “beautiful,” is a 14.2-acre vineyard high on Atlas Peak, planted to Cabernet Sauvignon in 2000 and 2003. The soil here is incredibly rocky, dry, and poor, quite like Pritchard Hill to the north, studded with fractured andesite rock and boulders. The proximity to the San Pablo Bay brings persistent winds, which along with the heat and arid soil, cause the set of very small berries and loose bunches, and consistently delay ripening each year.

Harvest

Bud break started a month earlier than usual, early March. The weather was warmer than past vintages. Heat waves beginning and late June accelerated ripening. A very strong heat wave hit the valley early September. Luckily the top temperature up at the vineyard was 104F versus 116F in the valley floor. Harvest started September 15 and ended October 6.

ALCOHOL LEVEL:	14.1%
CÉPAGE:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
ÉLEVAGE:	30 Months in French oak, 50% new, 28% once-used and 22% twice-used.
PRODUCTION:	300 cases
OPTIMAL AGING:	2026 - 2040