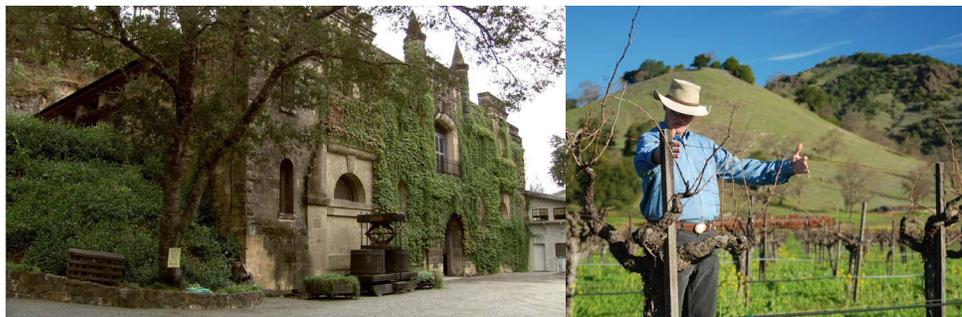




Chateau Montelena Cabernet Sauvignon

NAPA VALLEY

2015



ESTATE

Chateau Montelena's rich history began on a chilly fall morning when Alfred L. Tubbs spaded over and inspected the soil where he thought of planting estate vineyards. He'd heard the Napa Valley was the best place to grow grapes in California. A deal was struck and in January of 1882 the San Francisco entrepreneur owned 254 acres of rugged land just two miles north of Calistoga at the base of Mount Saint Helena. The soils are well drained, stony and loose – perfect for the vine cuttings he would plant.

WINE

The wines at Chateau Montelena are often described as having classic “old-world” structure with ripe California fruit. What that means is that these wines tend to have more acid, lower pH and more moderate alcohol levels as compared to some of the flashy “modern” Cabs. This classic chemistry allows them to pair very well with a wide variety of dishes and sets them up for graceful aging.

VINTAGE

The weather in 2015 was highly conducive to producing ripe, concentrated wines. Warm, dry conditions catalyzed an early start to the growing season, while a temperate spring coupled with the effects of the multi-year drought limited yields in the vineyard. Summer temperatures were mild overall and vine stress remained manageable as August heat materialized just ahead of harvest.

VINIFICATION

Chateau Montelena's Napa Cabernet Sauvignon is made up of 91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc. The wine is aged in French and Eastern European oak barrels (35% new) for 16 months.

Alcohol:
14.2%

Harvest:
August 29 - September 26

Bottling Date:
April 2017

Release Date:
January 2018

“Montelena's 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon is gorgeous. Pliant and supple, the 2015 offers notable density and raciness in an up-front style that will drink well upon release. Succulent red/purplish fruit, spice, new leather and licorice are front and center. A wine of total allure, the 2015 hits all the right spots...It is one of the best values readers will find in Napa Valley Cabernet. Don't miss it.”

– 92 Points Vinous Media