

J·DAVIES

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Diamond Mountain District

The Davies family, proprietors of Schramsberg and Davies Vineyards in Napa Valley, presents its eighteenth vintage of Cabernet Sauvignon crafted from the historic Diamond Mountain vineyards they purchased in 1965. The estate vineyards were replanted to Bordeaux varietals beginning in 1994, and the J. Davies Estate Cabernet Sauvignon was first released in 2004 (2001 vintage).

J. Davies Estate Cabernet Sauvignon is the creation of two generations of the Davies family, the product of an intimate knowledge of a place and of a passion to create delicious red wine. The wine is named in honor of patriarch Jack L. Davies, who along with his wife, Jamie, revived the Schramsberg property and established the preeminent American sparkling wine house over 50 years ago.

The vineyard blocks, totaling 46 acres, are laid out in four isolated pockets ranging from 500 to 1,000 feet in elevation. They include the two Schram sections, Napa Valley's first hillside vineyards, originally established in 1862 by Jacob Schram, the McEachran parcel, first planted by Colin McEachran in 1878 and the Claes parcel, dating back to 1984. These are the southernmost vineyards in the Diamond Mountain District AVA. Flanked by two cool creek canyons (Nash Creek to the north and Ritchie Creek to the south) and surrounded by compact coniferous and deciduous forests, the vines here produce late-ripening, richly concentrated fruit with average yields of just two tons per acre.

The long growing season in 2018 revealed a vintage with structure and concentration without being overripe. Despite a warm February, the growing season started off cooler than the past few vintages. A cool spring meant bloom lasted longer than usual, which resulted in a bountiful crop. Summer temperatures were moderate with fewer heat spikes than in recent years. Veraison started later as well, and as a result, harvest started two to three weeks later than in recent years. The result was fruit exhibiting firm tannins, with outstanding color and brightness.

TASTING NOTES:

"The 2018 J. Davies Estate Cabernet Sauvignon opens with dense black plum, vibrant blackberry, rich cocoa and notes of black pepper, complimented by undertones of tobacco leaf and mountain sage. Flavors of marionberry, black plum, baking spice and mocha lead to a lush and coating finish. Youthful, but integrated, tannins anchor the wine's rich mouth-filling weight."

— Winemakers Sean Thompson and Hugh Davies

— Consulting Winemaker Celia Welch

APPELLATION:	Diamond Mountain District, Napa Valley, Estate Grown
VARIETAL COMPOSITION:	88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Malbec, 6% Petit Verdot
HARVEST DATES:	October 4 - November 2, 2018
BARREL AGING:	22 months in 65% new French oak
COOPERS:	Vicard, Atelier, Orion, Boutes
BOTTLED:	August 20, 2020
ALCOHOL:	15.0%
TA:	5.1 g/L
pH:	3.91
PRODUCTION:	825 (9-Liter)

