



2018 Zo Wines Hafner Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon

Region: Healdsburg, California, USA

AVA: Alexander Valley

Vineyard: Hafner Vineyards

Blend: 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Malbec, 3% Petit Verdot, 1% Merlot

Alcohol: 14%

pH: 3.66

TA: 6.2 g/L

Harvest Date: 10/1/18

Retail Price: \$59/bottle

Winemaker: David Eckert

Production Notes:

Production Notes: This wine is primarily Cabernet Sauvignon from Hafner Vineyards along with Malbec and Petit Verdot. The Merlot comes from Idylspoke vineyard in Dry Creek. The fruit was brought in the early morning to keep it as cold as possible. We then hand sorted the clusters and then destemmed the berries before gently breaking the skins and transferred into a stainless-steel tank. During fermentation, we kept the temperature below 84 degrees and did pump overs depending on the stage and tannin structure of the wine until we reached our desired tannin complexity. After fermentation, we pressed and transferred the wine to 20% new French oak, 20% once used French oak and 60% neutral French oak to age. It was racked every three months to gently fold oxygen into the wine to smooth the tannins and create great structure. It was then blended and bottled in December of 2019.

Vintage:

After a challenging 2017 harvest, Sonoma County growers and vintners hoped for a more relaxed harvest and Mother Nature did just that. Despite a colder spring than previous vintages which resulted in a longer bloom, fruit set remained consistent. As a result of a slightly later start and moderate temperatures in the summer, harvest started later than years past. The near perfect fruit set led to large clusters which in turn, produced a large crop. This vintage required patience in order to get the development and maturation needed. But, the patience paid off tremendously, making 2018 one of the best vintages in Sonoma County in recent memory.

Tasting Notes:

Lovely earthy, blackberry, cassis, blueberry, chocolate, dried floral notes. A classic bordeaux like body and mouth feel. Velvety tannins with just enough grip and finish to keep you wanting to go back for another sip.

David Eckert, WINEMAKER