



JUDGE PALMER

2022 Cabernet Sauvignon

Monte Rosso Vineyard, Moon Mountain District, Sonoma County

Winemaker's Notes: An expressive and layered Cabernet with a nose of black cassis, Tahitian vanilla, and graphite. The palate is bold yet balanced, featuring tart black cherry and a vibrant acidity that lifts the richness of the fruit. Chewy tannins provide structure, leading to a long, dynamic finish that speaks to the power and elegance of Monte Rosso Vineyard.

Vineyard: Monte Rosso Vineyard is perched in the Mayacamas Mountains, a thousand feet above the Sonoma Valley floor. Named for its iron-rich, red volcanic soils, Monte Rosso has produced grapes of unmistakable character for more than a century. Cabernet Sauvignon thrives here, producing a powerfully built wine with intense flavor and structure for many years of cellaring potential.

Vintage: The 2022 growing season in Sonoma County began with a late spring and mild summer, fostering optimal conditions for early-ripening varieties. However, an unprecedented heatwave in early September challenged late-ripening grapes like Cabernet Sauvignon, necessitating vigilant vineyard management to maintain fruit integrity. In the Moon Mountain District's Monte Rosso Vineyard, Cabernet Sauvignon was harvested on September 13th at 25 degrees Brix and 3.5 pH, yielding wines with rich dark flavors, balanced acidity, and a full-bodied structure.

Winemaking: The grapes were de-stemmed into small open-top tanks for a long cold soak to encourage development of color before fermentation began spontaneously with wild yeast. Fermentation continued without the addition of any chemicals or enzymes, aided only by the heat of the sun and gravity-fed "pump-overs" once per day. After pressing the wine went into 100% new French oak barrels where it aged for 28 months.