



*Tasting Notes:*

“This has a dark and winey feel, with a strong lacing of bay leaf and savory through the core of well-steeped fig, black currant and blackberry fruit flavors. Smoldering charcoal notes score the finish. Very distinctive and not for the faint of heart. Best from 2022 through 2035. 93 points.” – James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*

*Vineyard:*

Six miles up Soda Canyon, 1,800 feet above the valley floor, lies the last frontier of the Napa Valley – it is here that the Krupp brothers carved out the spectacular Stagecoach Vineyard on Atlas Peak by excavating over a billion pounds of basalt, andesite, and tufa boulders. The well draining red volcanic soil and dramatic diurnal temperature shifts at this elevation provide an ideal terroir for slow ripening grapes that yield wines with both structure and finesse.

*Vintage:*

The drought continued delivering a fourth straight dry winter and early spring budbreak. Some unsettled weather during flowering led to shatter and lower yields, but the peak summer months brought only a few extreme heat days. Ideal conditions ensued in the late summer, and while harvest came a bit early for mountain Cabernet on September 29th, the small amount of fruit on the vine showed plush, ripe flavors and taut structure.

*Winemaking:*

The grapes were destemmed into one open-top tank to cold soak 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 daily punch-downs and/or gravity pump-overs. After pressing the wine went into 100% new French oak barrels from Darnajou, Taransaud and Ermitage, where it aged for 24 months.