



Harvest & Varietal Information

VINEYARDS: Rutherford: 94% Carneros: 6%

Morisoli Borges, Hudson, Beckstoffer—George III, Truchard

VARIETIES: 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Petit Verdot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 2% Merlot

PRODUCTION: 1,076 cases RELEASE DATE: February 1, 2019

If you love our Cain Concept for its classical Napa Valley fruit, its generous round palate, full body and refined finish, then the 2015 is for you! The wine is classically Cain, subtle, balanced, and yet, undoubtedly one of the ripest Cain Concepts we've ever made. But, it doesn't go over the limit; the tannins remain firm and lively with a very fine edge.

The wine is deep ruby—not black—and with little sign of evolution. The nose is subtle and complex, of flowers, red fruits, black fruits, dried fruits, herbs and leaves. Smooth and round on the entry, the mid—palate is surprisingly firm and refined, leading to a finish of toast and bitter chocolate. Delicious today, the wine clearly has a long life ahead.

2015 will be remembered as an early year, a dry year, one of low yields and early ripening. For many, these are the hallmarks of a great year, and we're already hearing this about 2015. At Cain, where we're constantly looking for freshness, balance, nuance and complexity, vintages like this are a challenge. We were paying close attention, especially in the summer and particularly in August, and we think we handled it just right. There is no doubt that 2015 was a perfect year for the relatively vigorous and late-ripening Petit Verdot, which made a significant contribution.

2015 is our final vintage from the benchlands. It is with much fondness and some sadness that we say goodbye. Working with these great vineyards has been a privilege and learning experience. First of all we learned just how great the best of these sites on the benchlands truly are and how they function. And we learned how the wines grown in these sites are structured and about their personality. But what we did not expect is that the benchlands would teach us about our own vineyard, the Cain Vineyard. From working with some fantastic vineyards in the benchlands of the Napa Valley, we learned how the structure, the mouthfeel, the texture, and aromatics of the Cain Five, grown in our Cain Vineyard are completely distinct, unlike anything else. The wild herbal—floral perfume, floating over a firm, but supple and very polished palate distinguishes the Cain Five and sets it apart—truly unique. For those, like us, that have loved the Cain Concept—not to worry! We still have some bottles remaining of the past few vintages. They are developing very nicely and will continue to do so for a decade or more to come.

Christopher Howell, Wine-Grower/GM

For information on our other two wines—Cain Five and Cain Cuvée, please visit our website.