



2016 Aril Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Calistoga/Napa Valley)



ARIL is a family-owned winery founded in 2008 and 10 years later the Jay family purchased the brand. They were inspired to produce a small amount of premium, hand-crafted wines from the Napa Valley. Renowned winemaker and viticulturist Ehren Jordan (Failla/Turley), took over as winemaker/vineyard consultant in 2014 from previous winemaker Nate Weis (Silver Oak) and viticulturist Mike Wolf (Beckstoffer). We have maintained a simple philosophy of procuring optimal grapes and respecting them in the winery. Distinct sites and exceptional farming are followed by a minimalist approach in the winery showcasing place, balance, and elegance.

Winemaking Notes

100% Cabernet Sauvignon (20% Barrel Fermented)

65% new French oak barrels (Taransaud, Remond, Ermitage, & Atelier) for 30 months

440 cases produced

Alc.: 14.5% pH: 3.54

Winemaker/Viticulturist: Ehren Jordan

Vineyard

Our Estate Vineyard is located in the Calistoga AVA. It is north of the town, surrounded by rolling hills, and in view of Mt. St Helena. It is close to and towards Knights Valley. The property has its own micro-climate, often cooler than the city of Calistoga, with an afternoon breeze helping moderate the temperature. Calistoga has **the largest diurnal temperature variation among Napa Valley AVAs**. There are gentle slopes within the vineyard showcasing its diversity. There is a mix of soils from fine sandy/clay loam on the bench to a darker, eroded volcanic component on the lower portion. Throughout, there is a significant rocky aspect aiding in drainage and minimizing vigor. Yields are small (2 to 3 tons per acre). Ehren Jordan has farmed this property organically since 2011.

Tasting Notes

2016 will be Napa Valley's fifth year of producing an outstanding vintage. We decided for many reasons to make this a 100% Cabernet Sauvignon for this vintage; however, the primary reason was that this wine could stand on its own as 100% varietal wine, which we find more and more rare. The singularity, purity, and precision of this wine are 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from the Upper Napa Valley. The power of Calistoga Cabernet starts with chocolate-covered blue and black fruits; the density of the wine reminds me of a boysenberry cobbler. The mid-palate is supported by great acidity and weight, which will help the aging of the wine beautifully in the bottle for the next 3 - 5 - 15 years.

