Cakebread Cellars

Cakebread Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon captures the essence of Napa Valley's diverse terroirs, presenting a harmonious mix of blackberry, toasty oak, and a hint of minerality, ideal for pairing with hearty dishes or for cellaring.

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Alcohol :14,80 %

Composition: 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot

Cabernet Sauvignon 2021

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

The **Cakebread Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon** is a classic representation of Napa Valley, one of the most prestigious wine regions in the world. This wine is a blend from vineyards located in several renowned Cabernet Sauvignon appellations within Napa Valley, each contributing to the wine's complexity and depth.

Rutherford and Oakville are known for their bold fruit intensity, while the warmer area of **Calistoga** in the north and the cooler southern reaches of the **Suscol watershed** add layers of flavor and complexity. These diverse sites, with their unique soils and microclimates, allow Cakebread Cellars to craft a rich yet elegant Bordeaux-style blend that highlights the best of Napa Valley.

The **growing season** began with ample rainfall, filling the soils across Napa Valley. Cooler-than-usual temperatures extended the growing season, allowing for a longer harvest period. This extended ripening period enabled the grapes to develop their distinct varietal aromas and concentrated flavors, resulting in a wine that showcases the hallmark characteristics of the region.

Winemaking

The **Cakebread Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon** is crafted with meticulous care to ensure the highest quality. The grapes are **hand-harvested** during the cool night hours to retain freshness, purity, and natural acidity. After harvesting, the clusters are hand-sorted and destemmed. Partial crushing of the grapes optimizes the extraction of color, flavor, and tannin from the grape skins.

Prior to fermentation, the grapes undergo a "cold soak" which softens the skins and helps to extract more color and tannin. The wine is then aged in **French oak barrels** (50% new) for **17 months**. This aging process enhances the wine's complexity and integrates the flavors beautifully. After aging, the winemaker blends the different components to add further layers of complexity to the wine.

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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Bright red.
- **Aroma:** The bouquet is fragrant and complex, with notes of ripe **blackberry and boysenberry**, complemented by hints of dark chocolate and toasty oak.
- **Palate:** Rich and smooth on the palate, the wine's sumptuous dark fruit flavors are balanced by fresh acidity and lush tannins. The finish is long and elegant, with a subtle hint of minerality.

Did you know?

This vintage was notable for its ideal growing conditions in Napa Valley. The combination of ample rainfall, cooler temperatures, and extended sunshine allowed for a slow and even ripening of the grapes. This contributed to the wine's depth of flavor and aromatic complexity, making the **Cakebread Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon** a standout vintage.

James Suckling (JS) : 91 Points (2018)

Ripe plums and blackberries with some coca-nib, vanilla, bread-crust and smoke notes. Full-bodied with velvety tannins, deep fruit and bright acidity. Tight and reserved, yet juicy, with a long finish. Approachable now, but better in 2022.

Robert Parker (RP) : 90 Points (2018)

The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon is a blend of 88.2% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6.2% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot, 1.1% Syrah, .5% Malbec, .5% Cabernet Franc and .5% Petite Sirah. Deep garnet-purple in color, it offers up vivacious scents of warm cassis, juicy blueberries and Black Forest cake with hints of dried herbs and tilled earth. The medium to full-bodied palate delivers mouth-coating black fruit preserves flavors with a soft, approachable texture and plenty of freshness, finishing with an herbal lift.

Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 92 Points (2017)

The base Cabernet from this terrific estate is the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon, which checks in as 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot, and the balance Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. It has beautiful notes of crème de cassis, graphite, tobacco, and ground herbs as well as a dense, rich, concentrated style on the palate. This terrific Cabernet is going to benefit from 3-4 years of bottle age and cruise for upwards of 15 years (or more) in cool cellars.