# Ramey

Ramey Cabernet Sauvignon Pedregal Vineyard 2017 is a bold and luxurious wine crafted from a small hillside vineyard in Oakville, Napa Valley, known for its rocky terrain and exceptional terroir.



Alcohol :14,50 % Composition: 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Petit Verdot

# Cabernet Sauvignon Pedregal Vineyard 2017

RAMEY

California, USA

## Region and Vineyards

The **Pedregal Vineyard**, located on the lower slopes of eastern Oakville in Napa Valley, is aptly named after the Spanish word for "rocky place." This small, hillside vineyard is distinguished by its **iron-rich red soils**, composed of **85% basalt rock**, which impart a unique minerality and structure to the wine.

The vineyard is planted with **85% Cabernet Sauvignon (Clone 7)** on **St. George and 110R rootstock**, established in **1990**, and **15% Petit Verdot** planted on **110R rootstock** in **1993**. The close vine spacing and challenging terrain result in low yields of intensely flavored fruit. Since 2008, Ramey Wine Cellars has maintained complete control of this site, ensuring precise farming and consistent quality.

## Winemaking

The **2017 vintage** began with a wet winter, followed by a mild summer that culminated in a heatwave around Labor Day. Afterward, warm and steady temperatures allowed the fruit to ripen evenly, resulting in fruit quality ranging from great to exceptional, with well-preserved acidity and moderate yields. Harvest occurred on **September 6 (Petit Verdot)** and **September 30 (Cabernet Sauvignon)**, with an average **Brix of 25.1**°.

The blend of **80% Cabernet Sauvignon** and **20% Petit Verdot** was co-fermented using **native yeasts**, with full natural malolactic fermentation. The wine was aged for **24 months in new French oak barrels** (Taransaud), resting on its lees with **bi-monthly bâtonnage** to coat the tannins and ensure smooth wood integration. Lightly fined with egg whites and bottled without filtration in **March 2020**, this meticulous process resulted in a wine of extraordinary depth and finesse.





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#### **Tasting Notes**

- **Color**: Deep, vibrant ruby with garnet reflections, showcasing concentration and aging potential.
- Aromas: A complex bouquet of blackcurrant, dark cherry, and plum, accented by notes of cedar, graphite, and hints of violet and spice.
- **Palate**: Full-bodied and richly textured, with velvety tannins supporting layers of **dark fruit**, **mocha**, and **earthy minerality**. The wine's firm structure and balanced acidity lead to a long, elegant finish.

#### Did you know?

The **Pedregal Vineyard** has been the source of Ramey's premium Cabernet Sauvignon for **fourteen vintages**, highlighting the unique terroir of this rocky Oakville site. The meticulous co-fermentation of Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot adds depth and a seamless integration of flavors.

### Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled porterhouse steak with herb butter**: Complements the wine's robust structure and rich tannins.
- **Short rib ragu over pappardelle**: Enhances the wine's dark fruit and savory complexity.
- **Roasted root vegetables with thyme**: Matches its earthy and mineral undertones.
- **Aged cheddar cheese**: Balances the wine's firm tannins and accentuates its creamy finish.

#### Wine Enthusiast (WE): 95 Points (2017)

This tightly wound and powerful wine is laced with fine-grained tannins to support dark chocolate and quite-ripe blackberry and blueberry flavors that have a satisfying richness and depth. Time will ease the tannic grip, so best to drink from 2026–2036.



#### Jeb Dunnuck (JD): 94 Points (2017)

The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Pedregal Vineyard brings the addition of 20% Petit Verdot and is aromatic with notes of menthol, redcurrant, and leather. Ripe and full bodied, it has great freshness, with balance in its notes of red and black fruit and gravelly earth. It has a rocky texture, with ripe tannins that are broad and have some grip. Drink 2026-2046.

## 92 Wine Spectator

#### Wine Spectator (WS): 92 Points (2017)

This has an old-school edge, with a winey core of gently mulled red and black currant fruit mixed with warm earth, singed cedar, balsam wood and savory details. The long finish moves steadily, leaving a nice tug of earth that echoes. Drink now through 2034.





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