



2017 BELLA UNION NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Bella Union was founded by the partners of Far Niente to specialize in the art of blending Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. The cornerstone of the blend is our 25-acre vineyard in Rutherford, along Bella Oaks Lane, a country road that was historically called Bella Union. The vineyard is planted primarily to Cabernet Sauvignon in well-drained loam, and the vines range from 20 – 30 years of age. Classic varietals of Malbec, Cabernet Franc and Petite Verdot sourced from select Napa Valley vineyards complete the blend.

HARVEST NOTES

A temperate spring brought about a normal budbreak and even development of our vines as they flowered and approached fruit set. Summer was warm, allowing continued development of our fruit, before an early September heat spike that helped our fruit accelerate their growth. A cooler end to September allowed for continued even ripening and additional hangtime allowing flavors to further develop. Malbec and Merlot were brought in first, followed by Cabernet Franc, and finishing up with Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot coming in shortly afterwards.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2017 Bella Union is filled with luscious aromas of cherry cola, anise, and baking spices. Tension is exhibited on the palate as this wine is both fruit forward and restrained. Black cherry, blueberry and other briary fruit flavors guide the wine's bright midpalate, finishing with hints of cocoa and resolved tannins.

APPELLATION

Napa Valley

HARVEST DATES

September 13 - October 29, 2017

RELEASE DATE

August 2019

FERMENTATION

Stainless steel, concrete and wood tanks

AGING

French oak barrels
69% new, 31% once-used

WINEMAKER

Michael Accurso

SKIN CONTACT

12-25 days, average

TIME

16 months in barrel

DIRECTOR OF WINEMAKING

Andrew Delos

