



# Stuhlmuller Vineyards

## 2017 ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON ALEXANDER VALLEY

### PROPRIETOR

Fritz Stuhlmuller

### WINEMAKER

Leo Hansen

### VINEYARDS

Stuhlmuller Vineyards, located in southern Alexander Valley, converges with two highly regarded Sonoma County appellations, Chalk Hill and Russian River Valley. On its eastern edge, the 150-acre vineyard borders the Russian River. Situated in a location that is part river benchlands and part hillside, the vineyard benefits from its alluvial gravel soils and the rockier soils of the hillside sections.

### THE CLONES

The fruit for this Cabernet emphasizes three clones, from seven separate blocks, with vines from 15 to 30+ years old. From the river benchland, we use our clone 337 for its fruit-forward black cherry flavors. Hillside clone 7 fruit adds floral layers and classic Cabernet cassis and cherry elements. Our oldest plantings, a field selection from the Belle Terre Vineyard, provide tannic concentration and blue fruit notes.

### THE VINTAGE

After a wet spring that energized the vines, summer brought consistently warm weather to Sonoma County. Our vineyard set an average size crop, and thanks to a full canopy, we had ideal shade on the fruit. As a result, our vines produced pristine grapes, with excellent natural acidity, lovely balance, and pure varietal flavors. We began harvesting our Cabernet on September 25th and finished October 16th with brix ranging from 23° to 25.2°.

### WINEMAKING

Nine individual fermentations were done, using a mix of open-top tanks, and closed-top tanks where the must was pumped over. The closed-top tanks added to palate texture, while the open-top tanks retained fruit intensity. The wine was racked to 40% new French oak and underwent native malolactic fermentation. Each lot was fermented and aged separately for 10 months before blending, with barrel aging for a total of 18 months.

### THE WINE

The 2017 vintage shows blackberry, currant, ripe plum, black cherry, sweet berry, and violet with a rich mouthfeel leading to integrated, fine tannins, and a long, bright finish.

### ALCOHOL

13.9%

### PRODUCTION

1425 cases

### COMPOSITION

94.4% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5.6% Petit Verdot

### RELEASE DATE

Spring 2020

### pH

3.58

### BOTTLED

June 2019

### TOTAL ACIDITY

6.1 g/l

### SUGGESTED RETAIL

\$45.00

