



CORNERSTONE  
CELLARS • NAPA VALLEY

## 2016 Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon

Founded in 1991 by Michael Dragutsky, Cornerstone Cellars is the quintessential Napa Valley mountain and benchland producer of Cabernet Sauvignon. Our winemaking led by Kari Auringer honors Napa Valley's great heritage by crafting intense, elegant and balanced wines that stand among the very best winegrowing estates in the world. Through intellectual rigor, humility, and with the utmost respect for the land, Cornerstone Cellars aims to make wines that truly speak to its exceptional vineyard sites in the most authentic and genuine way possible.



### 2016 Vintage

Throughout most of California the winter months finally brought us substantial, nourishing rains after four long years of drought, giving stressed vineyards and winemakers some relief. An early, warm spring triggered a slightly early budbreak, with veraison also starting early in many vineyards. All evidence pointed to 2016 being another early vintage, until the mild summer days bathed the vineyards in moderate temperatures and stretched the ripening season a little longer than expected. Long sunny days with moderate temperatures allowed us to hang the fruit on the vines a little longer, achieving ideal ripeness without intervention from Mother Nature.

### The Appellation

This vineyard lies in the sweetspot of the Napa Valley, planted on the gravelly bed of an ancient stream, known as the Rutherford bench. The valley floor tends to produce broader, bigger, more lush wines compared to the mountain vineyards.

### 2016 Tasting Notes

Dark and concentrated in color, this aromatic valley floor Cabernet is packed full of ripe fruit aromas accentuated by a hint of baking spices and dried herb. A few swirls will release an abundance of black and red fruit aromas. As the aromas suggest, this wine is smooth, lush and juicy on entry. The mid palate is broad and packed with sweet blackberry and cassis flavors, with a hint of black licorice. Complex layers of ripe fruit, cedar, and dried herb are wrapped in a delicate layer of toasty vanilla. Youthful tannins are well integrated but would be best served with a little time in the cellar.

### 2016 Winemaking Notes

Vintage:	2016
Appellation:	100% Rutherford, Napa Valley
Vineyard:	100% Famous Rutherford Vineyard
Varietals:	97% Cab Sauvignon 3% Petit Verdot
Harvest Date:	October 13, 2016
Cooperage:	70% New French oak, 30% 2-Year French oak
Alcohol:	14.9%
pH:	3.8
TA:	5.8 g/L
Bottling date:	July 23, 2018
Production:	346 cases
Retail:	\$120