



# cultivar

C A B E R N E T S A U V I G N O N  
L E A K Y L A K E

2017

## 2017 Vintage Notes

The year began with abundant rainfall, followed by a mild Spring resulting in extended flowering with little shatter. A Labor Day weekend heatwave kicked harvest into high gear, then cool weather allowed sugar levels to return to normal. By early October, nearly 90 percent of the 2017 grape harvest was in tank—a two-week jump from the average. Critics have described the 2017 vintage as having elegance, finesse, and great complexity of flavor.

## 2017 Cultivar Leaky Lake Cabernet Sauvignon

Julien Fayard, Wine Spectrum's 2021 Winemaker of The Year, gives further evidence of his extraordinary skills with the latest vintage of our Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon from the Leaky Lake Vineyard. Cultivar's only vineyard-designate wine, the Leaky Lake Cabernet is a combination of exceptional terroir and winemaking acumen. More approachable and elegant in its youth than previous vintages, the 2017 starts with floral notes on the nose: violets and roses, with a touch of lavender and oak. The first sip brings waves of crushed blueberries, blackberries, tart cherry, and vanilla cream, while the mid-palette reveals figs, mint, and eucalyptus. A smooth, lingering finish is highlighted by tannins that don't overwhelm, but still provide a strong backbone for aging. There's no doubt about the hillside origins of this wine, but with a brighter profile that favors minerality over earthiness and savory notes over ripe fruit. Pair it with lamb kabobs with rosemary-crusting potatoes, beef bourguignon, a bacon cheddar burger, rigatoni with pesto, or steak with peppercorn sauce.

Winemaker  
Appellation  
Production  
Blend  
Alcohol

Julien Fayard

100% Napa Valley

46 Cases

100% Cabernet Sauvignon, clones 131 and 337

14.3%

