



### Harvest & Varietal Information

VINTAGES: 2016, 2017

VINEYARD LOCATIONS: 67% Spring Mountain District, 33% Valley Floor, 100% Napa Valley

RELEASE DATE: August 1, 2021

Here's what I wrote a year ago, and we continue to hold the line:

The back label says it all: *Harvested, Vinified, and Blended for Freshness, Lightness, Complexity and Balance*. Our intention with the Cain Cuvée hasn't wavered since the very first, more than thirty years ago. And in 1998, it became even more focused with the inception of blending two vintages.

To see what's new, read on down.

In the NV17, the Cain Vineyard dominates, contributing two-thirds of the total, split evenly between the two vintages, while Merlot grown on the valley floor provides a silky-fruity backdrop.

Once again, the NV17 illustrates perfectly the way in which two vintages blended together can complement one another. 2016 was a relatively cool year that gave us some lovely, light, perfumed wines, perfect for Cain Cuvée, while, at the outset, the 2017 harvest promised to deliver firm, deeply structured complex wines—the ideal complement to the more delicate 2016s.

But then our world changed. In 2017 a dramatic series of wildfires visited Napa and Sonoma, and the Cain Vineyard, though untouched, was bathed in a sea of smoke that did not dissipate for two weeks. The second half of our harvest was lost.

Thankfully, those early, fresh lots that we picked and vinified specifically for our Cain Cuvée were singing and we had everything we needed to compose the most beautiful and focussed Cain Cuvée to date. You'll easily find the signature of the Cain Vineyard, with its bright floral and herbal aromatics.

This will be a fun one to pair with your grilled seafood, sausages or roasted chicken—think rosemary and thyme!

Christopher Howell, Wine-Grower