

2023 PLUMPJACK RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON, OAKVILLE



VARIETALS
99% Cabernet Sauvignon
1% Petit Verdot



ALCOHOL
15.0%



PRODUCTION
640 cases



100 POINTS
Lisa Perrotti-Brown



PLUMPJACK
WINERY

WINEMAKER
Aaron Miller

AVA
Oakville

VINTAGE

The winter of 2023 was cold and wet. Rainfall was 10 inches above average and we saw record snowfall in the mountains of Napa Valley. So, understandably, our vines slept in a bit, and budbreak began about three weeks later than what is typical. Spring was cool. Summer was cool. And while we were getting reports of record heat throughout the U.S., the fall in Napa was... cool. The late budbreak and cool vintage led to a late harvest and allowed us to craft incredible wines with beautiful and fresh aromatics, vibrant acidity, and great depth, weight, and complexity.

VINEYARD

The PlumpJack Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is grown on our estate in Oakville, planted on an ancient mudslide originating in the Vaca Mountains, which left us with a very diverse soil profile: four soil types and a gradient of rock throughout the estate. This results in a diverse and unique expression of Cabernet Sauvignon and contributes to the complex aromas, flavors, and textures of these wines. The Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is crafted from grapes grown in the rockier soils on the east side of the estate. These soils contribute a darker fruit profile and more structure while still maintaining freshness and finesse.

FERMENTATION & AGING

The 2023 vintage is sourced primarily from the gravelly I & K blocks on the east side of our estate. These blocks were subdivided and picked into smaller lots to ensure the grapes were picked at the peak of maturity. The grapes were cold soaked for four days before beginning fermentation, then pressed once the wines obtained the desired flavor, concentration, and tannin. After fermentation, the wines were racked to French oak Sylvain, Taransaud, and Quintessence barrels for malolactic fermentation and aging. The Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon was blended in the spring after harvest and aged in 97% new oak barrels for a total of 22 months before bottling.

WINEMAKER IMPRESSIONS

With a display of immense depth, refinement, and purity that meld seamlessly, the 2023 PlumpJack Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is a beautiful example of power and finesse. Initial aromas of fresh, sun-warmed blackberries, black currant, and violets are followed by nutmeg, allspice, graham cracker, and espresso bean notes derived from the French oak barrels. This is layered with classic fresh sage, iron filings, and wet stone reminiscent of warm granite after a light spring rain. The palate showcases juicy blackberry and plum along with dried cherries, warming spices, and dark chocolate. The wine boasts a rich, round texture, with assertive yet fine tannin that leaves an impression of minerality. The beautiful acidity brings the wine to life and draws the fruit through the palate to build a gorgeous and enduring finish.