



CHERRYBLOCK

2015

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

THE VINEYARDS

Since its creation, Cherryblock has been our flagship wine at Sebastiani. The majority of the fruit (80%) came from our original Old Vines block of Cabernet Sauvignon planted in 1961. The wine also features a portion of fruit from younger vines on our estate. Small amounts of Malbec and Merlot were sourced from nearby sites with similar climates and soils. Our goal is to create a benchmark Cabernet that possesses the elegance, structure and terroir-driven aromatics only found in Cherryblock.

THE VINTAGE

2015 was a fantastic vintage producing high quality fruit. It began with an earlier than average bud break and an intense, compacted harvest beginning earlier than average as well. The high temperatures in August and early September accelerated maturity and picking times. The grapes were harvested under clear night skies from September 18th to October 19th, 2015 at optimum ripeness.

WINEMAKING

After harvest, the grapes were crushed, de-stemmed and hand sorted using our "micro-crush" equipment to eliminate any stem pieces (jags) and botrytised berries. We also did a cold soak and saignée to enhance color and concentration. After pressing, each lot was blended or egg-white fined depending on characteristics. The wine was aged for 14 months in French oak barrels, 65% of which were new.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Complex, velvety and bold, the 2015 Cherryblock delivers a great deal of intricacy and sophistication. The wine fills the glass with dark red and purple highlights, followed by intense aromas of cassis, tobacco and black fruit. Waves of rich black fruit wash over the palate, where layers of cedar and tobacco converge. The tannins from this vintage were more intense than usual, leading us to blend in a little more Merlot than is typical. The finish is framed by full soft tannins and lingering notes of herbs and spice. This wine is drinking well in its youth, but will improve over the next 10+ years.

APPELLATION:	Sonoma Valley
COMPOSITION:	80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot, 4% Malbec
COOPERAGE:	14 months in 65% new French oak barrels
ALCOHOL:	15%
TA:	0.59 g/100ml
PH:	3.63
BOTTLING DATE:	July 2017
CASES:	840

