



2017 CABERNET FRANC

NAPA VALLEY

Kuleto is one of the most complex and diverse wine producing properties in the world. Located in the volcanic mountains of eastern Napa, our estate features 761 total acres and 82.9 acres of vines perched along ridges and clinging to steep hillsides. Our soils, exposures, elevation changes and sub-climates are so complex that we've delineated our property into more than 100 micro-blocks. Each of these tiny plots is treated as an individual vineyard with varieties, clones, rootstocks, density, trellising and farming methods tailored specifically to the site.

For winemaker Giovanni Verdejo, there is a mutual understanding that all but a small percentage of the winemaker's work is done in the vineyard. Keeping the vineyard's serpentine twists and exposures in mind, the best suited varietals for each block have been selected. Working with the land, not against it, the individually terraced lots are not oriented to one central direction, but instead are planted to maximize the benefits of their natural location.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Vintage 2017 gave us yet another beautiful vintage in the Napa Valley. This following the fabulous vintages of 2012-2015. Marked by a few late-season heat spells (and the late season fires), the wines are as opulent as the 2012s, with the elegance of the 2015s.

At Kuleto Estate, we prize our Cabernet Franc for its ability to retain its varietal character no matter the vintage. In the coolest or dampest of vintages, the sweet herbal component balances perfectly with lower alcohol and balanced acidity. In the warmest of vintages, it becomes like cherry candy in the nose and mouth with just a hint of its true cabernet character. Our 2017 vintage displays aromas and flavors of cherry cola, red licorice and hints of raspberry. The palate is mighty with robust tannins and ripe red fruit flavors with a hint of peppercorn spice that leads to a smooth, lingering finish.

TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Composition 85% Cabernet Franc, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon

Vineyard Kuleto Estate, 1100 - 1250 feet elevation | Alcohol 13.5%

Aging 18 months in 30% new French oak barrels

pH 3.75 | TA 5.5 g/l

Cases Produced 168 (750 ml)