

CLOS DE NAPA

2023 RUTHERFORD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

90 PTS. | JAMESSUCKLING.COM 

Blend: 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petite Sirah, 3% Merlot

Alc: 14.5% by vol. | **Aging:** 18 Months in new French Oak & American

pH: 3.76 | **Acidity:** 5.5 g/mL | **Residual Sugar:** 3.5 g/L

VINEYARDS

The grapes were sourced from vineyards with rich, well-drained soils known for producing structured and flavorful Cabernet Sauvignon, were harvested at optimal ripeness to ensure concentrated flavors and ideal phenolic maturity. After careful sorting, the grapes were destemmed and crushed, then fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks to preserve the integrity of the fruit and facilitate precise extraction of color, flavor, and tannins. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation to soften the acidity and enhance the mouthfeel, adding a creamy texture to the robust structure. The wine was then aged in French oak barrels, a significant portion of which were new, to impart depth, complexity, and subtle notes of vanilla and spice. This oak aging process was carefully monitored to ensure that the oak flavors were well-integrated and complementary to the wine's natural fruit characteristics and the distinctive 'Rutherford dust'—a term often used to describe the unique earthy quality of wines from this area. The maturation in oak barrels not only enriched the wine's aromatic profile but also contributed to its aging potential, resulting in a well-rounded and sophisticated Cabernet Sauvignon that reflects the rich heritage and high quality of Rutherford winemaking.

WINE

This Cabernet Sauvignon from Rutherford is a distinguished wine that beautifully captures the essence of this renowned Napa Valley sub-region. It boasts a deep, rich garnet color, signaling the robust flavors to come. On the nose, this Cabernet offers a compelling blend of dark fruits, including blackberries and plums, enriched by the classic Rutherford dust—earthy and mineral nuances that add depth and complexity. Subtle hints of mocha and sweet tobacco are elegantly woven into the bouquet, enhanced by the judicious use of French oak. On the palate, the wine is full-bodied and opulent, with a velvety texture that carries layers of ripe black currant, dark cherry, and a touch of licorice. The tannins are firm yet refined, providing excellent structure and balance, while the finish is long and persistent, with a lingering note of cedar and spice. This 2023 Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon is a testament to the quality and character of the region, offering a luxurious drinking experience that pairs splendidly with rich meat dishes or can be savored on its own.



acclaimed

WINE COMPANY