



## 2018 BELLA UNION NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Bella Union was founded by the partners of Far Niente to specialize in the art of blending Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. The cornerstone of the blend is our 25-acre vineyard in Rutherford, along Bella Oaks Lane, a country road that was historically called Bella Union. The vineyard is planted primarily to Cabernet Sauvignon in well-drained loam, and the vines range from 20 – 30 years of age. Classic varietals of Malbec, Cabernet Franc and Petite Verdot sourced from select Napa Valley vineyards complete the blend.

### HARVEST NOTES

A February start to the season was followed by a mild spring, giving us extended flowering and balanced clusters in both vineyards. Consistent summer temperatures allowed our fruit to enjoy a leisurely, extended hang time so that each cluster could achieve perfect phenolic maturity. Because we never had to rush, we were able to harvest our fruit when it reached just-right ripeness that as just-right, picking our blocks over the course of two weeks.

### SENSORY EVALUATION

With its blackberry patch aromatics followed by hints of raspberry preserves and accents of leather, there's a ripe, pure fruit quality to this stunning new vintage. Generous layers of red fruit flavors fill the entry while subtle cocoa and baking spice undertones linger on the midpalate. Resolved tannins enhance the almost-velvety texture throughout the entire wine, and fresh botanical notes add vibrance to a finish that is at once long, luscious and lifted.

### APPELLATION

Napa Valley

### HARVEST DATES

September 24 - October 6, 2019

### RELEASE DATE

2021

### FERMENTATION

90% stainless steel (20% open-topped and 80% closed); 5% neutral wood open top; 5% concrete

### AGING

French oak barrels  
50% new, 50% neutral

### WINEMAKER

Michael Accurso

### VARIETALS

88% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
8% Merlot,  
2% Malbec,  
1% Petit Verdot  
1% Cabernet Franc,

### TIME

18 months in barrel

### DIRECTOR OF WINEMAKING

Andrew Delos

### SKIN CONTACT

12-25 days, average

