
KEPLINGER

2019 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, OAKVILLE RANCH VINEYARD

TASTING NOTES

The 2019 Oakville Ranch Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon has a complex, sweet and savory nose of red currant, red plum, cassis, dried thyme, lavender, leather and graphite. The silky entry opens to a broad mid-palate, with flavors of ripe fig, rose, and carob. Fine tannins run the full length of the palate, driving a long, flavorful, pure finish. This wine is drinking beautifully now and will age effortlessly for 20 years and beyond. 175 cases produced. Farmed organically with great heart and attention to every leaf and bug by the brilliant Phil Coturri. We coax fine texture from the tannin-building rocky soils, which also give a distinct note of minerality that is an unmistakable hallmark of this vineyard. Cool air spills and drains through this geomorphic bowl of vine rows daily, retaining acidity and freshness of flavors in the berries. Working with Phil and his dedicated team really feels like a true collaboration to make something special, which is essential when making world-class wines with a soul.

TECHNICAL DATA

VINTNERS	Helen Keplinger and DJ Warner
WINEMAKER	Helen Keplinger
VARIETAL	96% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot
APPELLATION	Oakville
PRODUCTION	175 Cases
ALCOHOL	14.8%
AGING	22 months in 100% French oak barrels



BACKGROUND

Helen Keplinger moved to California to attend the MS program in Enology at UC Davis. She has worked with Heidi Barrett at Paradigm in Napa Valley, Kathy Joseph at Fiddlehead in Santa Barbara, Michel Rolland, and David Abreu in Napa Valley. Since 2004, she has made wine for some exciting projects, including Cellers Melis (Priorat, Spain), Kenzo Estate, Arrow & Branch, Bryant Family Vineyards, and is currently crafting wine for Grace Family Vineyard, Carte Blanche, and Kerr Cellars.

Helen met DJ while he was managing a Spanish wine shop part time which led the two to meet over a bottle of 1995 Pago de los Capellanes, Reserva on DJ's recommendation. Helen's time in Priorat working with Grenache and finding unique singular vineyard sites for Melis was the inspiration for Keplinger wines.

In 2006, Helen founded Keplinger and the couple launched their first vintage in 2008 with a focus on small production, single-vineyard Rhone varietal wines.

Keplinger focuses on making seamlessly crafted, terroir-driven, Rhone varietal wines from unique and diverse sites in Napa, Sonoma & Sierra Foothills. All the vineyards are hillside or mountain sites, carefully farmed by hand for small berries and concentrated flavors, in close collaboration with Helen. Each wine comes from a singular vineyard to represent the characteristics of the grape or grapes in the wine from their respective vineyard's terroir each vintage. The wines are made in small lots, with careful attention paid to every detail.