



SARACINA BIG SHOT VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2016

Vintage Information

Mendocino County Big Shot Vineyards 2016
Production of 125 cases

Varietal Composition

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Harvest Date

October 8, 2016

Technical Data

14.7% alcohol by volume
0.63 gm/100 ml titratable acidity
pH 3.82

Release Date

September 6, 2018

Vineyards

Who is the “Big Shot” for whom this vineyard is affectionately named? That would be John Fetzer’s brother, Joe Fetzer, who was raised as a winegrower and is considered one of the pioneers in Mendocino County grape growing. Joe’s vineyard, located on a hillside overlooking Saracina Ranch, lives up to its name. Ruggedly terraced on a steep, southeast facing slope, it makes a bold statement. But Joe has a soft side, as does the vineyard, which avoids the intense late afternoon sun, and thus preserves the Bordeaux varietal character.

Harvest

The harvest of 2016 was a winemaker’s dream, following replenishing, drought-ending rains and a long and even growing season. We harvested perfect grapes by hand on the morning of October 8, 2016.

Winemaking and Cooperage

The grapes were destemmed into an open top fermenter, and native yeast fermentation began eight days later. We punched down by hand, and at dryness drained the free-run juice directly into French Taransaud barrels, one third of which were new. Native malolactic fermentation was complete by late February. The wine remained in barrel on fine lees for a total of 21 months and was bottled on August 2, 2018.

Winemaker Alex MacGregor’s Comments

Deep garnet in color, our 2016 Cabernet has complex aromatics, displaying black currant and cedar with a savory background note. The palate is dense and concentrated with a surfeit of elegance, a testament to a superb growing season. Pair this wine in warmer months with a thin sliced beef loin and arugula salad, and to warm your soul when there is a chill in the air, with lamb meatballs and tagliatelle.

