



# SCATTERED PEAKS

## SINGLE VINEYARD SELECTION

sage ridge vineyard cabernet sauvignon

napa valley, california

*Scattered Peaks is elegantly crafted by wine industry icon, Derek Benham, and legendary Napa Valley Winemaker, Joel Aiken. Each vintage, Derek and Joel set aside a limited amount of distinctive single vineyard wines from their favorite sites in Napa Valley. These coveted bottlings are known as the Single Vineyard Series, the ultimate expression of terroir.*

### VINTAGE

2018 began with abundant rainfall followed by a mild spring resulting a later bud break. Under ideal conditions, flowering occurred a little later than previous years yet created a beautiful fruit set. A typical Napa Valley sunny summer brought hot days and cool evenings allowing the grapes to accumulate complex flavors, deep color and delicate tannins.

### WINEMAKING

After gentle destemming, the fruit soaked at 45 ° F for four days with two gentle pump overs a day. On day five, each tank was inoculated and warmed to 70 ° F to start fermentation. We completed three pump overs per day during active fermentation and one gentle pump over a day during post fermentation maceration for a total of 18 days. The wine was aged exclusively in French oak barrels for approximately 22 months. All new barrels were medium to medium-plus toast. Malolactic fermentation occurred in each barrel and racked twice during aging process to clarify the wine and eliminate lees.

### TASTING NOTES

A beautiful rich deep ruby color starts the experience with the Scattered Peaks Sage Ridge Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. The aromas open up with blackberry, vanilla, and subtle sawn cedar. On the palate, supple flavors of brambly black cherry, cherry cola and tobacco and a delicate hint of violets. The wine finishes with the classic, rich tannin structure, mountain top cabernets are known for. Enjoy this hearty cabernet sauvignon with grilled filet mignon, a side of roasted broccoli and buttered potatoes.



### TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

**Vineyard Sourcing:** 100% Sage Ridge Vineyard

**Appellation:** Napa Valley **Vintage:** 2018

**Varietal Composition:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon (Clone 169)

**Aging:** 22 months in 60% new French oak barrels

**pH:** 3.68

**TA:** 0.618g/100ml

**Alc:** 15.3%



LEARN MORE ABOUT  
NAPA VALLEY TERRIOR

*Derek Benham*  
Derek Benham  
PROPRIETOR

*Joel Aiken*  
Joel Aiken  
WINEMAKER



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## SAGE RIDGE VINEYARD

Owned by Judy Jordan (Founder of J Vineyard & Winery), this vineyard is perched high on the hills above Lake Hennessey and is a series of small plots that run along the ridgelines. The site's warmth is tempered by the interior range location with air flow from a variety of directions – Lake Hennessey, Alexander Valley, and the Mayacamas. This translates to lingering days of sun exposure that can quickly turn to blustery afternoons as well as earlier budbreak, an arid environment, and consistent growth. Given the diversity in altitude and exposure, the unique meso-climate result creates harvests that can last 60 days. The high altitudes south and east facing have earlier budbreak than Rutherford while the lower altitudes and north facing come three to four weeks later. Soil: Unique mixture of well- to excessively-drained sedimentary and metamorphic soils underlain by a bedrock of Franciscan complex. Silty clay loams with varying depths, mixtures of gravels, and fractured rock undulate among the steep slopes.

**AVA:** Napa Valley

**Location:** Eastern hills of Napa Valley, south of Howell Mountain, west of Chiles Valley

**Neighbors:** Pritchard Hill & Howell Mountain

**Planted Acres:** 60 (600 total)

**Year Planted:** 1998

**Elevation:** 850-1480 ft

94

POINTS

"A silky journey from start to finish: energetic & somewhat flashy because of its intense color, depth of flavor and magnificent hue."

- THE TASTING PANEL



92

POINTS

"An enjoyable, luxurious, New-School Napa Cabernet"  
- DECANTER

90

POINTS

"It's medium-to full-bodied with firm, fine-grained tannins."  
- JAMES SUCKLING