



## 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Atlas Peak

Founded in 1991 by Michael Dragutsky, Cornerstone Cellars is the quintessential Napa Valley mountain and benchland producer of Cabernet Sauvignon. Our winemaking led by Kari Auringer honors Napa Valley's great heritage by crafting intense, elegant and balanced wines that stand among the very best winegrowing estates in the world. Through intellectual rigor, humility, and with the utmost respect for the land, Cornerstone Cellars aims to make wines that truly speak to its exceptional vineyard sites in the most authentic and genuine way possible.



### Vintage Notes

Throughout most of California the winter months finally brought us substantial, nourishing rains after four long years of drought, giving stressed vineyards and winemakers some relief. An early, warm spring triggered a slightly early budbreak, with veraison also starting early in many vineyards. All evidence pointed to 2016 being another early vintage, until the mild summer days bathed the vineyards in moderate temperatures and stretched the ripening season a little longer than expected. Long sunny days with moderate temperatures allowed us to hang the fruit on the vines a little longer, achieving ideal ripeness without intervention from Mother Nature.

### The Vineyard

Above 1400 feet, Stagecoach Vineyard is near the top of Atlas Peak Road. The rocky volcanic soil is an intense red color in a jagged, mountainous landscape. The vines struggle more than vines planted on the valley floor, which produces small concentrated berries packed with flavor. Although the vineyard is subject to the typical maritime afternoon and evening cooling, the area tends to avoid the fog that spills into the rest of Napa Valley. As such, Atlas Peak is influenced by full sunlight during the day, and the temperature drops at night, with warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters.

### Tasting Notes

The first swirl of this provocative hillside Cabernet releases classic mountain grown fruit characteristics of intense ripe berries and black licorice. Bold and expressive, the core is bursting with primarily black ripe fruit with a bit of red berry notes. The complex mid-palate is satisfying and seductive, offering spice and sweet vanilla flavors with integrated tannins that linger on the finish. The layers of flavors continue to unfold as this tasty gem opens up. Always evolving, this wine immediately begs another taste.

### Winemaking Notes

Vintage:	2016
Appellation:	100% Atlas Peak, Napa Valley
Vineyard:	Stagecoach Vineyard
Varietals:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Alcohol:	14.9%
Cooperage:	70% New French oak Barrels, 30% neutral oak
Production:	130 Cases
Retail:	\$95