



2016 Marsanne Roussanne Artist Series

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.



El Dorado AVA & David Girard Vineyard

El Dorado, a sub-appellation of the expansive Sierra Foothills AVA, is defined by an elevation of 1,200 to 3,500 feet. Cooled by elevation, not fog, these are ideal growing conditions for Rhône-style varietals including Mourvèdre, Syrah and Grenache. David Girard Vineyard is located at 1,330 feet elevation and has 40 acres of hillside vineyards planted to several Rhone varietals including Mourvèdre, Grenache, Marsanne, Roussanne and Viognier

Vintage Notes

The winter months finally brought Northern California substantial, nourishing rains after four long years of drought, giving stressed vineyards and winemakers some relief. An early, warm spring triggered an early budbreak, with veraison also starting early in most Napa vineyards. Long sunny days without any major heat spikes allowed us to hang the fruit on the vines a little longer, achieving ideal ripeness without intervention from Mother Nature.

Tasting Notes

Bright floral and fruity aromas lift out of glass, reminiscent of summers past. Each swirl releases a bouquet of jasmine and lemon flower fragrances. Your first sip confirms it. This dry aromatic wine is loaded with sweet summer fruit and just a touch of dried herbs. As you might expect from the Marsanne grape, you'll find classic spice and ripe pear flavors. The Roussanne grape in this blend brings intense flavors of stone fruit and herbal tea. Just a touch of Viognier in the blend adds a bit of lush texture. As in their traditional home in the Rhône region of France, these grapes are most often blended together, and this is the perfect example of what happens when we do. A balanced white wine, offering up all the fun of a summer afternoon picnic, but with enough elegance to earn its place at your dinner table.

Winemaking Notes

Vintage:	2016
Appellation:	El Dorado County
Varietals:	47% Marsanne 47% Roussanne 6% Viognier
Alcohol:	14.1%
Fermentation:	60% Stainless barrels, 40% neutral French oak Batonage throughout fermentation and aging
Production:	160 Cases
Retail:	\$30