

2020 EXPEDITION

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

33 BARRELS HANDCRAFTED BY WINEMAKER ANDY ERICKSON
AVAILABLE BY ALLOCATION

VINEYARD

Expedition is a wine whose character is meant to capture the essence of the journey through each growing season. In 2020, the road was not straight and wide open, and our vineyard and winery teams worked diligently to navigate the various curves and corners that came at us. High in the mountains and north, fires raged, wreaking havoc from St. Helena to Calistoga and beyond. Indeed, fruit from many vineyards, including our Stags Ridge Vineyard on Atlas Peak, was not harvested. Meanwhile, far below, at our Base Camp Vineyard on the valley floor, the fruit was able to ripen fully and develop with the same purity and intensity as normal.

AGING

Judging from the density and structure present, and having followed this wine incredibly closely through its many stages, we are confident to say that it will likely age for at least two decades in the bottle, and continue to reveal notes about this great journey.



TASTING NOTES

The color is dark black-purple, and the perfume is vivid and highly inviting. Notes of raspberry, currant, rose petal and balsam are instantly appealing. On entry, there is a delicious, pure, narrow focus on the fruit, with added notes of plum, graphite, and lavender. There is wonderful fresh acidity holding the wine together, and the tannins are certainly present, but burnished and rounded by the barrel aging. The wine lengthens and expands on the finish, leaving you with the desire to have more.

WINE MAKING

Our Expedition 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon is the sole expression of the vintage from Seven Apart, and we believe it to capture all the intensity and generosity that a sunny California season can deliver. Each block was harvested and fermented separately, carefully monitored to ensure that the wines were clean and pristine as usual. The individual vineyard wines were aged separately in 60% new French Oak barrels.

After 14 months of aging, we carefully pieced together the blend, and put it back to barrel for another 6 months. The final blend is 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot, and 6% Petite Sirah. The results are exciting both as a winemaking victory and as a wine of immense character that marks this unforgettable year.