

*Cabernet Sauvignon*  
ELEVATED™



ROBERT CRAIG WINERY

## 2016 HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot

### KEY POINTS

- Produced from our 9.5-acre estate vineyard, perched along the summit ridge of Howell Mountain at 2300'.
- Considered our flagship release, the Howell Mountain Cabernet is the defining wine of our portfolio — a rare and extraordinary wine from a superb vineyard.
- Vines were planted in 1997 on 110R rootstock which fares well in stony soils, our estate vineyard is showing the vine maturity in the finished wines.
- The red volcanic and tufa soils give this Cabernet a wild, bramble berry character, coupled with touches of warm red stones and spice.
- Variation in soils and microclimates within this small property make it challenging to farm. The yields are a meager 1.8 tons to the acre, but the fruit possesses a rare power and expression of site.
- Soils are especially shallow, even for Howell Mountain, and the vines must work through the rocky soils to seek moisture.

### 2016 VINTAGE NOTES

- 2016 in Napa Valley was considered an “exceptional vintage,” with ideal growing conditions, moderate yields and superb wine quality.
- The early, moderate weather and lack of significant heat events made for one of the best quality vintages of recent memory.
- Compared to the previous four vintages, 2016 saw wetter spring soil conditions, requiring careful canopy maintenance.
- Yields were moderate to below average going into harvest. Tannin quantity was overall slightly low, but tannin quality is excellent.

“...Tightly wound and packed, the 2016 is full of energy. Raspberry jam, iron, dried flowers red flowers, mint and white pepper all help give the 2016 a decidedly high-toned profile, but it is the wine’s energy and sense of drive that stand out most.”

**94 POINTS** ANTONIO GALLONI, [VINOUS.COM](http://VINOUS.COM) (DEC. 2019)

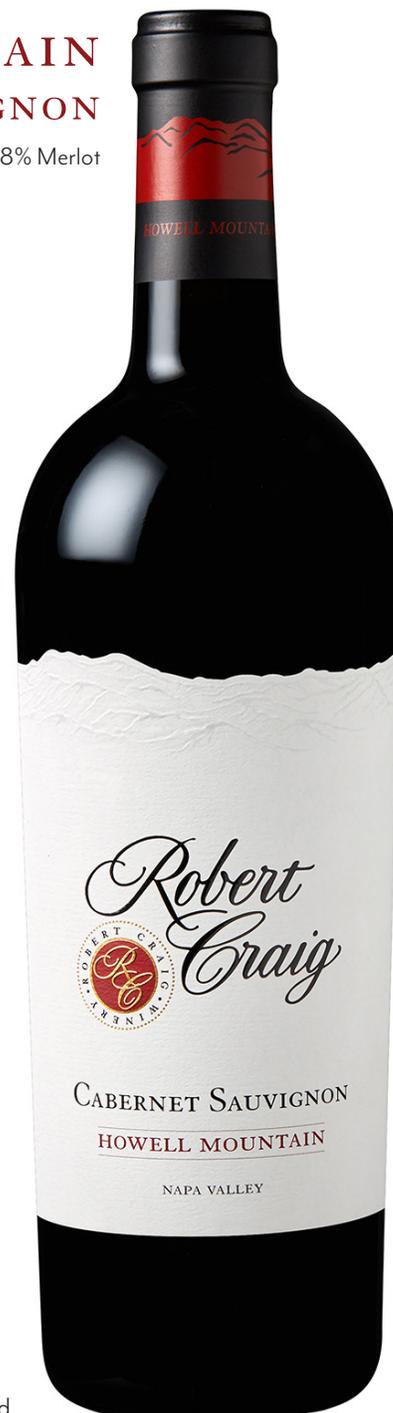
**BLEND:** 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot

**HARVEST DATES:** September 16-October 1, 2016

**AVERAGE SUGAR:** 24.9° Brix | **TA:** 6.6g/L **PH:** 3.68

**BARREL AGING:** 18 mo. Chateau-style French oak; 80% new/20% 2nd yr. Unfiltered & unfined.

**CASES PRODUCED:** 1800



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