



## 2017 E.J. CHURCH CABERNET FRANC NAPA VALLEY

This reserve wine takes its name from E.J. Church, Long Meadow Ranch's pioneering settler who acquired the property via a patent grant from President Ulysses S. Grant in 1872. We have replanted the southwest-facing vineyards which E.J. Church established in the 1870s. These mountain-grown grapes, planted at 1300 feet elevation develop deep fruit flavors and ripe tannins which are handcrafted into an elegant, balanced wine.

**VINEYARD:** Bear Canyon

VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 100% Cabernet Franc

**ALCOHOL: 14.5%** 

MATURATION: 18 months in 50% new French oak, 50% neutral French oak

**CASE PRODUCTION: 56** 

**FOOD AFFINITIES:** Grilled grass-fed ribeye or chicken and andouille sausage

Jambalaya

## **WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS:**

"At just a third of an acre, the Cabernet Franc block is the jewel in the crown that is our Bear Canyon vineyard. True to its varietal, the nose opens with a subtle cooling mint freshness that is supported by ample cherries, cranberries and currants. On the palate, the mountain fruit acidity is woven with gentle oak and long smooth tannins for an elegant lasting finish."

- Justin Carr

## **GROWING SEASON:**

Abundant rainfall and a mild spring resulted in an extended flowering period and vigorous vines. Warming temperatures in August resulted in harvest beginning early for white varietals, but cool weather followed, allowing sugar levels to balance and extend the season allowing for a beautiful crop.

## LONG MEADOW RANCH:

Owned by Ted, Laddie, and Christopher Hall, LMR employs an integrated, organic farming system, using simple, sustainable methods. Each part of the Ranch contributes to the health of the whole. Vineyards and wine making, olive orchards and olive oil making, cattle and horse breeding all work together in complementary fashion, as do the egg-laying poultry flock and the organic vegetable gardens. All crops are certified organic by California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) and are grown without the use of herbicides, pesticides, or chemical fertilizers.