

VINTAGE 2022



PULIDO-WALKER

Cabernet Sauvignon

MT. VEEDER ESTATE VINEYARD

The 2022 Napa Valley growing season was a study in contrasts. An atmospheric river dumped more than four inches of rain in a 24-hour period in October of 2021, capping a two-year dry spell and setting up the vines with a good amount of ground moisture as they woke from winter dormancy. The rains petered out fairly early in the spring of 2022, however, ultimately making for a smaller crop.

The summer months were relatively uneventful, despite being on the warmer side. We saw better vine development than in the two previous seasons, with a full canopy that would stand the fruit in good stead when the thermometer spiked in September. With the Labor Day heat event, what had been a fairly sedate growing season became a critical test of our abilities.

As temperatures across the valley rose above 110°F and stayed there for several days, we were grateful for the elevation of the Mt. Veeder Estate Vineyard, as even a few degrees' relief made a clear difference in how the vines reacted.

The revelation of the vintage in the Mt. Veeder Estate Vineyard was Clone 30. Whereas past vintages from this site have featured more of clones 685 and 15, the 2022 Pulido~Walker Cabernet Sauvignon is 100% Clone 30, which retained the best color and typicity compared to previous releases.

Winemaking & Tasting Notes

A decidedly charming, middle-weight wine, the 2022 Pulido~Walker Mt. Veeder Estate Cabernet Sauvignon is more blue- and purple-fruited than the darker 2021 vintage. The immediate impression is one of juiciness. The wine leads with fruit character, more fresh berry than savory or mineral.

Cooperage was key. We used oak to punch up the back end, structure the mid-palate, frame the fruit, and lengthen the finish. The 2022 Pulido~Walker Mt. Veeder Estate Cabernet Sauvignon responded beautifully in barrel, coming fully into its own in the spring of 2024. It's a true testament to how interesting and expressive the Clone 30 has become in this estate vineyard.

This is a rare opportunity to enjoy a Pulido~Walker vintage upon release, while waiting for others to come around.

THOMAS RIVERS BROWN
Winemaker

Data

Estate Grown

Varietal: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Clone: 30

Aging: 20 months in 100% French oak (80% new barrels)

Barrel Coopers: Baron, Darnajou, Remond, and Taransaud

Alcohol: 14.8% by vol.

Titrateable Acidity: 5.6 g/L

pH: 3.9

Bottling Date: June 2024

Production: 135 Cases

Site

Appellation: Mt. Veeder, Napa Valley

Acreage: 15 acres at the southern end of Mt. Veeder

Elevation: 650 – 960 ft.

Soil Composition: Weathered sandstone, fractured shale, and clay loam

Varietals: Cabernet Sauvignon (75%) and Chardonnay (25%)

Cabernet Sauvignon Clones: 15, 30, 169, and 685

Planted: 2015

