PULIDO-WALKER

PANEK VINEYARD

St. Ftelena, Napa Valley

"What separates the best valley floor sites from good valley floor sites is their ability to drain," explains winemaker Thomas Rivers Brown. Panek Vineyard blankets a rocky, gently sloping knoll in the shadow of the Mayacamas Mountains along the old Napa River bed wash. The loamy soil, with its highly compacted alluvial deposits of gravel, provides optimal drainage. The valley basin is also more temperate than the hillsides surrounding St. Helena, making it ideal for slower ripening and full development of flavors. These elements coalesce in low yields of reliably superb fruit.

Vines at Panek are densely spaced and pruned using the "two straight cane" method, which requires a specific skill set and hands-on, time-intensive attention. The ultimate goal is to allow the "site to shine through" the wine.

Vineyard Facts

Appellation: St. Helena, Napa Valley

Site: 5.5 acres east of Highway 29, north of Turley Winery, adjacent to Aida Vineyard

Soil Composition: Black loam, crushed gravel

Planted: 2004

Varietal: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Clones: 4, 6, 7, 169, and 337