NORTHERN GALE 2016

Winery: Stormy Weather Wine

Winemaker: Cameron Woodbridge

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GROWING SEASON

2016 growing season started early, saw ideal weather conditions throughout and wrapped up as the valley's first significant fall rainstorm arrived on October 14. Thanks to a relatively steady and mild July and August and then a series of warm days at the end of the growing season, vineyards were able to progress to perfect ripeness.

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VINIFICATION

Fermented in small format stainless steel tanks. Cold soaked 5 days prior to fermentation. Temperature maintained below 80 degrees with a post ferment extended maceration of an additional 5 days. Malolactic fermentation occurred in barrel with aging on lees for at least 1 year.

Cooperage: 30% New French Oak, 70% Neutral French Oak

Barrel Aging: 30 months

Bottle Aging: 4 months prior to release in 2019

Production: 274 cases

TASTING NOTES

Winemakers notes:

Aromas of bing cherries, currants, raspberry jam, summer flowers with a hint grilled steak. The meatiness continues on the pallet with black cherry compote, cassis and cocoa through the finish. The tannins are big and soft. Ready to drink now but will benefit from another year or two in bottle.

Wine Advocate: Produced from 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, coming from Calistoga, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Northern Gale spent 30 months in French oak barrels, 30% new. Deep garnet-purple, the nose is a little reticent to begin, soon unfurling to offer glimpses at an array of savory scents—charcuterie, bouquet garni, yeast extract, tapenade and Chinese five spice—with a core of crème de cassis, baked plums, sandalwood and dark chocolate. Full-bodied, the rich, opulently fruited palate does not hold back, delivery mouth-coating exotic spices and a plush texture, finishing long, layered and lively. 274 cases were made.

Anticipated maturity: 2021-2045.

94+ Points Lisa Perrotti-Brown (Wine Advocate Dec2019)



APPELLATION: Calistoga, Napa Valley

VARIETAL: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

HARVESTED: October 2016

ALCOHOL: 15.4%