



## 2016 Hesperian Cabernet Sauvignon

Kitoko Vineyard  
*Atlas Peak, Napa Valley*

### Description

In the outstanding 2016 Vintage, the Kitoko Vineyard reached new heights of quality, boasting meaty, savory aromas, along with notes of spicy poached black cherries, espresso, minerals, mulberry, and a hint of caramel on the finish. It's a structured, noble bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon that will age 15-20 years effortlessly.

### Vineyard

Kitoko Vineyard, named for the Congolese Lingala word for "beautiful," is a 14.2 acre vineyard high on Atlas Peak, planted to Cabernet Sauvignon in 2000 and 2003.

The soils here are extremely rocky, dry, and poor, quite similar to Pritchard Hill to the north, studded with fractured andesite rock and boulders. The proximity to the San Pablo Bay brings persistent winds which—along with the heat and arid soil, cause the set of very small berries and loose bunches, and consistently delay ripening each year. Dry farming is not possible here, and the vines are watered for brief stretches to optimize ripening.

### The Harvest

2016 was a consistently uneventful, generous, and excellent vintage. A cooler August extended hangtime and at harvest time, fruit was abundant, ripe, and clean. The vintage was accordingly kind to Kitoko vineyard, and produced one of her finest wines yet, if scant in quantity.

ALCOHOL LEVEL:	14.8%
CÉPAGE:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
ÉLEVAGE:	20 Months in 64% new French oak
PRODUCTION:	285 cases
OPTIMAL AGING:	2020 - 2036