



2016 Hesperian Cabernet Sauvignon

Witha, Napa Valley

Description

2016 is the inaugural vintage of “Witha,” the Wappo indian word for West. The wine flaunts a toasty, spicy, enticing aroma replete with sweet fruit notions of blueberries and black cherries, plus notes of cocoa and pen ink. So classy and fine, it plays bass to the treble notes of Kitoko. Its firm tannin and ample acidity promise at least a 20 year lifespan in a cool cellar.

Vineyard

58.3% of this wine comes from earlier picks from the Kitoko Vineyard. Named for the Congolese Lingala word for “beautiful,” Kitoko 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 remaining 41.7% of the wine comes from the Upstream vineyard in Coombsville.

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 and Upstream vineyards, and produced one of their finest wines yet, if scant in quantity.

ALCOHOL LEVEL:	13.9%
CÉPAGE:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
ÉLEVAGE:	20 Months in 31% new French oak
PRODUCTION:	405 cases
OPTIMAL AGING:	2020 - 2030