



# 2017 McGrail Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve

## Technical Data

Grape Source:	McGrail Vineyards
Appellation:	Livermore Valley
Production:	863 Cases
Varietal Content:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Oak:	French, Hungarian, and American
Titrateable Acidity:	0.62
Residual Sugar:	0.01
pH:	3.7
Alcohol Level:	14.6%
Release Date:	September, 2020

**Vineyard Notes:** If there is such a thing as a “normal” vintage, 2017 was it. We had average rainfall, spring was warm-ish and the summer was warm-to-hot. Heat in the summer can actually slow down the ripening as the vines want to shut down to conserve water that is respiring faster than it can uptake. Yields continued in the normal range and fruit quality continued to be exceptional.

**Winemaking Style:** Our winemaker believes in using a “spice rack” to create this complex Cabernet. We blend French, American, and Hungarian oak. Approximately 70% of the oak is new each vintage and the wine ages for about 30 months in this oak.

**The Wine:** This opulent garnet wine opens with cherry, cassis, spicy clove, dark mocha chocolate, and toasty vanilla. The palate matches the nose, but supplements it with density, great structure, and notes of plum, lavender, and remnants of the tobacco you’d find in an old Cuban cigar box. Bold, but smooth tannins frame the full-bodied mouthfeel of this classic Cabernet, leaving a lingering impression of fruit and spice. Pair this wine with an all-American burger, Italian oxtail, or a hearty, rosemary-crusting prime rib.

**Awards:** Our Cabernet Reserve has won the following awards:  
**Wine Enthusiast** - 92 points and Editors’ Choice for our 2016 vintage and 91 points for our 2015 vintage (August 2020 Issue), 90 points for our 2012 vintage (May 2015 Issue)  
**SF Chronicle Wine Competition** - Sweepstake Red Wine Award and Best of Class for our 2008 vintage (2012), Gold for our 2011 vintage (2015), Gold for our 2012 vintage (2016), Double Gold for our 2014 vintage (2017), Gold for our 2015 vintage (2019), Gold for our 2016 vintage (2020), awaiting results in 2021