



2017 Las Posadas

HOWELL MOUNTAIN, NAPA VALLEY

At an elevation of 2000' on Howell Mountain, Las Posadas is a diverse planting that spans across 33 acres. The combination of varieties, planted over more than a decade, coupled with the unique growing conditions at elevation, yield wine that exudes a distinct character that can only be Las Posadas. In recent vintages, Cabernet Franc from the parcel we call “the corral”, along with the oldest Cabernet Sauvignon vines at the base of the vineyard, form the core of the wine. Malbec, Merlot and Petit Verdot are all integral components to finalize the blend.

Due to the varied vine age and mix of varieties at Las Posadas, harvest is lengthy. In 2017, the first fruit to be picked was a mix of Cabernet Sauvignon with Merlot. This combination is proven to elevate the structure of Merlot and add intensity to the final blend. Two weeks later, a selection of Cabernet was fermented with Malbec to create a wild blend specific to Howell Mountain. The most crucial day of harvest at Las Posadas was October 5. That was the day we took most of the Cabernet Franc out of the corral and matched it with Cabernet Sauvignon and a little Petit Verdot to form the base of the 2017 blend. Just three days later, several fires broke out around the valley. Although we rushed to harvest fruit on October 9 (nearly 7 tons from Las Posadas), we could not include these grapes in any blend. We did pick the last of the fruit from Las Posadas on October 18—a fermentation that was all about exploration. Those grapes withstood several days of smoke so we were intent to see the effects of intense smoke on the grapes. All of the wines made from the last two picks were declassified. A barrel selection from the first three picks were blended together to form the 2017 Las Posadas—a blend of 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Cabernet Franc, 17% Malbec, 11% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot.

INAUGURAL VINTAGE: 2006

ACREAGE: 33

SOIL COMPOSITION: Red Aiken

VARIETIES: Cabernet Sauvignon,
Cabernet Franc, Petit
Verdot, Malbec, Merlot
September 12, 28

HARVEST DATES: October 5, 9, 18

PRODUCTION: 12 Barrels

BOTTLED: Dec 2019

RELEASE DATE: Spring
2022