

SULLIVAN[®]

RUTHERFORD ESTATE

2020 J.O. SULLIVAN FOUNDER'S RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

COMMANDING, BLACK, MINERALITY, CASSIS, BITTERSWEET CHOCOLATE



VINTAGE NOTES:

The 2020 growing cycle started with a very dry and warm winter. Spring rains initiated the growing season, while summer brought cool mornings and warm days that were ideal for phenolic development. Harvest began early in 2020, with our Merlot and even some Cabernet Sauvignon coming off the vine in August. The resulting berries were small and concentrated. These small yields met our rigorous standard of quality. Due in large part to our location in the heart of the Napa Valley, these early lots were unaffected and were harvested in pristine condition prior to the September Glass fire. The remaining fruit underwent extensive testing for smoke taint and any questionable lots were discarded. As a result, we chose to produce a small quantity of wine of outstanding quality, showing the consistent character of fruit that our estate is known for producing. As the 2020 harvest came to a close, we felt a renewed sense of gratitude for the health of our land and vines that permitted us to hone our craft.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2020 J.O. Sullivan Founder's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is an instant classic and the hallmark of the vintage and estate. The pure intensity of dark chocolate, and perfume of dried herb work in tandem creating a profile that is singularly linked to this wine. Sourced from the gravelliest and sand laden blocks in our vineyard, there is an inherent structure and firmness that alludes to a serious intensity. Unctuous on the palate, this wine is commanding in profile and extremely reflective of site. With time, this bottling will continue to evolve and develop nuanced aromatics and complex favors. This wine should be enjoyed over the next 25 years.

APPELLATION:

Rutherford,
Napa Valley

VARIETALS:

87% Cabernet Sauvignon

WINEMAKER:

Jeff Cole

RETAIL:

\$350

VINEYARD:

Sullivan Estate

13% Petit Verdot

PRODUCTION:

385 cases

BARREL AGING:

20 months

100% New French Oak

100% Hard Bung

ALCOHOL:

14.8%