



# 2022 CHRISTOBEL

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON

KNIGHTS BRIDGE ESTATE VINEYARD BLOCK II, I4 KNIGHTS VALLEY

AVA Knights Valley

VARIETY 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

HARVEST DATES September 16 - 17, 2022

AGING 20 months, 75% new French oak

COOPER Sylvain

ALCOHOL 15.2% PH 3.9 TA 6.0 g/L

BOTTLING DATE July 16, 2024

RELEASE DATE September I, 2025

cases 306

CELLARING Drink now through 2046

#### VINTAGE

The 2022 growing season delivered a lighter than average crop with smaller berries and cluster sizes of stellar quality. Winter rains led to earlier than typical bud break and were followed by successful fruit set in spring. Mild temperatures through most of summer allowed fruit to ripen at a moderate pace and develop ideal flavors. A heat wave in early September brought an earlier and faster harvest to ensure all fruit was picked at optimum ripeness.

MONTHLY AVERAGE HIGH/LOW TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
-,0,-	64.4	70.1	71.0	71.3	79.4	88.2	92.1	94.3	92.2	81.8	65.5	56.1
*	38.5	36.4	41.3	42.1	46.5	52.3	52.1	54.3	53.4	46.0	36.0	37.0
	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3

#### WINEMAKING

Fruit was hand-picked in the early morning hours of September 16-17, sorted and destemmed. The grapes then underwent a 72-hour cold soak before beginning traditional fermentation with two pump overs per day for 10 days. Aged for 20 months in 75% new French oak, we chose fine grain low toast barrels coopered by Sylvain for this Cabernet to preserve aromatic complexity.

### VINEYARD

Christobel is a prized single vineyard planted on a steep amphitheater, creating a wine that is as dramatic as its panoramic view. This sweeping terrace of old vines planted in the I990s enjoys exposures facing three cardinal points: due north, east, and west. Fruit from Block II contributes a more rustic tannin profile, along with dark, concentrated flavors highlighted with elegant floral notes. Block I4 fruit provides a balance to Block II, bringing fresh red and blue fruit characteristics, a mix of soft and angular tannins, and a lengthy finish.

### VINEYARD BLOCK DETAIL

BLOCK	ELEVATION	ASPECT	VARIETAL	SOIL	TRELLIS	CLONE	VINES	ACRES	SPACING	PLANTED
II	500 ft	W/SW	Cabernet Sauvignon	Goulding	VSP	8	884	1.26	12 x 6	1995
14	900 ft	W/NW	Cabernet Sauvignon	Laniger	VSP	8	2,601	3.78	12 x 6	1995

## ACCOLADES

95 Decanter | 93 Wine Advocate

### VINEYARD COLLECTION

Our Vineyard Collection wines highlight unique characteristics from specific blocks. These place and terroir-driven wines reflect a pure expression of our estate vineyard in Knights Valley and winemaker Derek Baljeu's guiding hand to bring out their highest qualities. Each block name is grounded in family and our rural roots to reflect and honor our values. This distinctive Cabernet honors Christobel Kotelawela Weerasinghe, mother and mother-in-law to Knights Bridge proprietors Menakka and Essel Bailey.