



# LITHOLOGY

## 2021 CABERNET FRANC DR. CRANE VINEYARD

### TASTING NOTES

This Cabernet Franc presents a captivating deep purple hue in the glass. Aromas of blackberry cobbler, vanilla, violets, and lavender entice the senses. On the palate, it delivers a dense mouthfeel with flavors of chocolate-covered strawberries, cocoa, blood orange, and brown sugar, accompanied by a hint of clove smoke. Balanced acidity reveals notes of strawberries, citrus, cocoa, clove, and brown sugar, supported by plush tannins, leading to a lingering, perfumed finish.

### VINEYARDS

Perfectly situated on the west side of Saint Helena with Sulphur Creek running along its northern border, the Dr Crane vineyard is the perfect example of how gravelly, free-draining, benchland soils produce some of the most compelling, age-defying wines in all of Napa Valley. These wines are elevated, high-toned, and extraordinarily complex.

### WINEMAKING

Fermented un 84% stainless, and 16% oak for 25 days.  
Aged for 22 months in 70% new french oak.

**WINEMAKERS:** Matt Sands, Philippe Melka, and Michel Rolland.

**VARIETAL:** 76% Cabernet Franc, and 24% Cabernet Sauvignon.

**HARVESTED:** September 9th, 2021.

**BOTTLED:** June 2023.

**CASE PRODUCTION:** 88 cases.

**ALCOHOL:** 14.9%

**AVA:** St. Helena.

**VINEYARD:** Beckstoffer, Dr. Crane.



"It is an absolute stand-out wine that is just seamless, with a purity of dark fruit flavors and spices balanced by threads of distinct minerality, freshness, and tension. Pure blackberry and black cherry fruit notes are tinged with bright capsicum. The depth and intensity of this wine are just as bewildering as the freshness conveyed on the palate. The dusty tannin backbone, a classic quality of the Beckstoffer Dr. Crane vineyard in St. Helena, frames a panoply of savory spices, crushed herbs, licorice, and black ironstone minerality, delivering a perfect Cabernet Franc in the heady, rich, opulent and mineral-driven style Lithology is known for, but with tremendous energy in the 2021s, which conveys a real elegance to match this wine's intensity."

*Jonathan Cristaldi*