

IRONSTONE

Vineyards

2016 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon Sierra Foothills ~ Estate Grown

In 1926, the Kautz family began farming in the Lodi region and in 1948, John Kautz Farms was founded. In 1990, after many successful years of growing wine grapes, the family completed the Ironstone Winery. The Ironstone Winery is a modern replica of an 1859 Gold Stamp Mill complete with tasting room, gourmet delicatessen, wine aging cavern, conference and wedding facilities, outdoor Amphitheatre, and 14.5 acres of landscaped gardens. The Heritage Museum and Jewelry Shoppe contains artifacts from the gold rush era, as well as the largest specimen of Crystalline Gold Leaf, a 44-lb. treasure. The family philosophy of winemaking is that quality wine grapes, a touch of artistry and patience create captivating elegant wines.

The Vineyards: Located at 2400 ft. above sea level, these grapes were estate-grown at our Hay Station Ranch vineyard where warm days are cooled by the evening mountain air. This area's unique soil of decomposed granite mixed with volcanic sediment and red clay produce a wonderful mineral component. Grapes have been grown in the Sierra Foothills for 150 years.

Sustainable Viticultural Practices: At Ironstone, the vineyard manager, has at his disposal, a variety of sound, ecological vineyard practices which can be employed depending on what Mother Nature delivers during the growing season. We use crop reduction, leaf removal, organic materials, and drip irrigation to improve the quality and intensity of flavors. Cover crops, which attracts beneficial insects, are also employed. In addition, we place owl and wood duck boxes around the vineyards and ponds helping to preserve the surrounding habitats.

Winemaking Process: These fully mature grapes were picked at their peak and delivered to the winery after being selected by our winemaker. After undergoing extended fermentation and maceration, the wine was transferred into small oak barrels and placed into our underground caverns to ensure a fuller, richer, finer wine of true varietal character. Hand blasted by local miners, many whose families came for gold in the 1800's, these caverns remain a natural 60 degrees Fahrenheit year-round temperature which slowly lowers the wine's alcohol while preserving its concentration of flavor.

Winemaker's Notes: Seductive and full-bodied, our Reserve 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon exudes aromas of fresh berries, black currants and black cherries that are laced with eucalyptus, cedar and mint. Big and powerful, yet elegant, this Cabernet exhibits flavors of sweet dark blackberry and plum with soft, creamy vanilla that plays well with the unique mineral qualities found only in wines produced in the Sierra Foothills.

Chef Recommends: Our Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is a classic for strong flavored foods including grilled meats, lamb chops as well as strong flavored cheeses. It's also an excellent choice for chocolate desserts such as a molten chocolate cake, bittersweet chocolate mousse or a simple plate of homemade fudge.

Awards: Wine Enthusiast, May 2017 **91 Points**, Cellar Selection (v. 2013)
Calaveras Professional Wine Comp., May 2015 **GOLD** (v. 2012)



Appellation: Sierra Foothills	Sub-AVA: Calaveras County	Production: 3,200 cases/6
Blend: 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Franc		UPC: 7 24826 01125 4
Aging: 20 months in small French & American oak Barrels		
Alcohol: 14.5%,	pH: 3.86	TA: 5.64 g/L
		RS: 2.5 g/L
		Released: May 2019