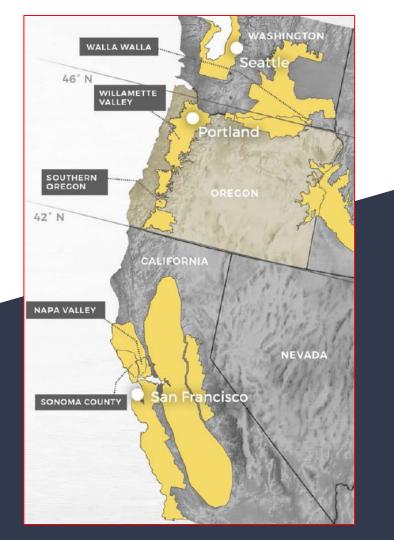
# Cab X 6: Regional Expressions of Cabernet Sauvignon in CA & WA

Virtual Tasting Feb 20, 2020





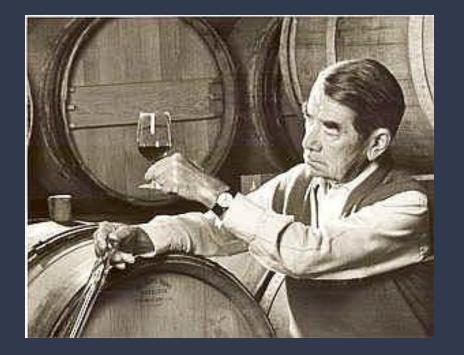
# Journey Up the Coast with Cab!

- Ground Effect Wine Company, Santa Ynez
- 2. Brady Vineyard, Paseo Robles
- 3. Set in Stone, Sonoma County
- 4. Hatcher, El Dorado County
- 5. Orsianna, Mendocino County
- 6. Gravel Bar, Columbia Valley, WA



Los Anaele

S21



"God made Cabernet Sauvignon....The Devil made Pinot Noir."

-- Andre Tchelistcheff

# A Little About Cabernet Sauvignon



- Relatively young varietal.
- Offspring of Cabernet Franc + Sauvignon Blanc -An accidental natural crossing in the 17th Century, probably in Southwest France.
- Was soon adopted across France, as it was durable and easier to grow than other varietals.
- Soon became the champion of Bordeaux, and quickly spreading around the world.
- Global leader for most of the 20th century, surpassed by Merlot in the 1990s, only to regain prominence in 2015.



# Some Cab Facts

- Relatively easy to grow,
- Thrives in both moderately cool to hot climates.
- Loves warm, well-draining top soils
- Highly vigorous vines with high yields
- Late budding and late harvest
- Relatively disease & rot resistant

- California & Washington have diverse climates, ranging from cool to very hot, with Cabernet found in:
  - California: Everywhere, but major areas are
    - North Coast
    - Central Coast
    - Lodi
    - Sierra Foothills
  - Washington
    - Columbia Valley

# Cab in CA & WA

Grape Varietal by Rank	Acreage	% Total
1. Cabernet Sauvignon	18,608	34%
2. Merlot	9,071	16%
3. Chardonnay	7,782	14%
4. Riesling	6,695	12%
5. Syrah	4,572	8%
6. Pinot Gris	2,123	4%
7. Sauvignon Blanc	1,451	3%
8. Cabernet Franc	685	1.3%
9. Malbec	579	1.1%
10. Pinot Noir	507	1.0%
	Source:	USDA, 2017

CA Wine Acreage	Acres	% of Total
Chardonnay	93,400	25.37%
Cabernet Sauvignon	91,800	24.94%
Pinot Noir	45,300	12.31%
Zinfandel	43,200	11.74%
French Colombard	18,900	5.13%
Pinot Gris	16,800	4.56%
Syrah	16,400	4.46%
Merlot	16,100	4.37%
Sauvignon Blanc	14,800	4.02%
Petite Sirah	11,400	3.10%

# Cabernet Sav Wine: What We Expect

- Overall Aromas & Flavors
  - Black Fruits: black cherries, currants, plums
  - Bell pepper & herbal, especially in cooler climates
  - $\circ\,$  Eucalyptus, tobacco, casis, graphite
  - Oak Flavors: Cedar, vanilla, baking spices
  - With bottle age: dried fruit, tobacco, leather



#### Hot Climate Cabs

- Hot climates produce more alcohol and body
- Less acid
- Riper, jammy, cooked fruit flavors

#### **Cooler Climate Cabs**



- Pyrazines: bell pepper aromas
- Dried herbs
- More acid, less alcohol
- Less jammy, less intense fruit flavors

### Ground Effect Wine Company 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon

#### Santa Barbara County Santa Ynez Valley AVA



- Grapes come from different vineyards in the Santa Ynez and Happy Valley AVAs
- Santa Ynez is a long, east-west corridor with cool temperatures in the west, getting hotter as you go east. Cab is mostly grown in the hotter eastern regions.
- Happy Valley is the eastern most AVA, and the hottest of the region.

2018 Vintage 14.5% ABV pH 3.65 Appellation - Santa Ynez Valley

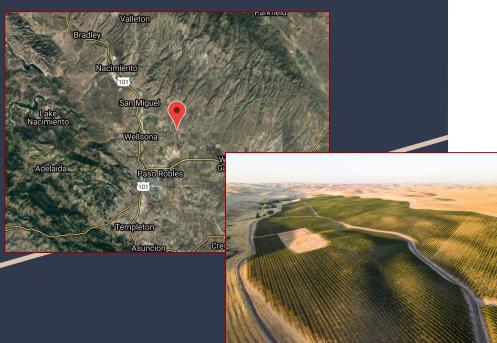
Blend: 95% Cab Sav 3% Cab Franc 2% Malbec

14 months aged, 15% New French Oak



# Brady Vineyard 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon

#### Paseo Robles, Estrella District Winemaker: Don Brady



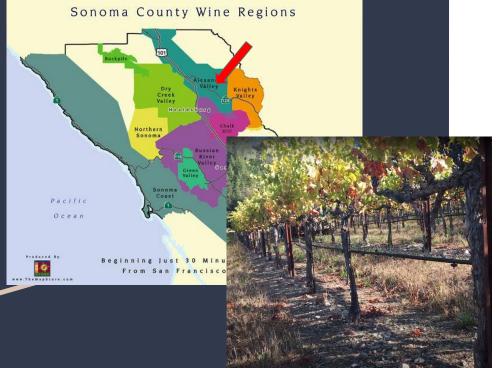
- Paseo Robeles is an AVA in San Luis Obispo County
- Vineyard is in the Estrella District one of the larger 11 sub-AVAs in Paseo
- Cool breezes & morning fog is common. Can get hot in the day, but always have cool nights which helps retain acid
- Megar, gravelly soils that form from the alluvial terrace overlooking the Estrella River
- Vineyards are on the bench overlooking Estrella.
- High density Cabernet plantings.
- Leaf pull on the sun side never on the south side, to help shade the grapes.
- Fermented in stainless, aged in barrels
  - Barrels made mountain grown Slovenia oak, adds baking spices - think Christmas spices!

85% Cabernet Sauvignon 7% Cabernet Franc 6% Syrah: roundness & fruit

2% Petite Sirah: brings power, color, and tannins

15% ABV pH 3.72

## Set in Stone, 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley, Sonoma County



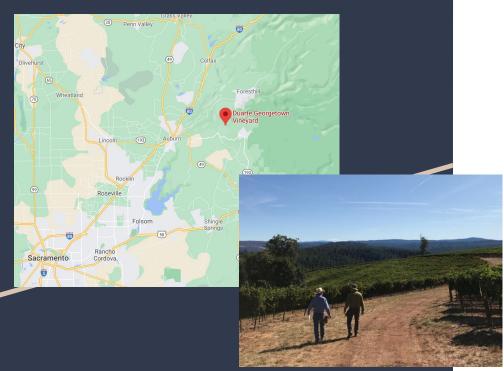
- 7-acre parcel east of Geyserville in the heart of Alexander Valley, where Cab is King!
- Vineyard is east-facing, so gets the hotter afternoon sun and full ripening of the Cab grapes
- Berries are smaller and less dense. Winemaker is looking for a higher skin to pulp ratio, to give it "more power...more weight."
- Vineyard is noted for its volcanic rocks gravelly well-drained soil.

100% Cabernet Sauvignon 14.4% ABV





## Hatcher 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Sierra Foothills, El Dorado County

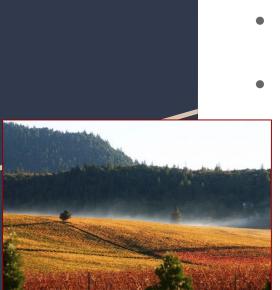


- About El Dorado AVA:
  - El Dorado has variety of micro climates from hot and dry to some cooler areas due to altitude.
  - Produce everything from Gewurztraminer to Cab and Barbera.
  - Wine production came with the Gold Rush, and by 1870 El Dorado was one of California's largest wine producing regions until the 1920s and prohibition. 1970s saw the beginnings of a comeback.
  - Today, El Dorado has over 2,000 acres planted, over 50 wineries to vines, and became an AVA in 1983.
  - Produces bold wines, and is known for reds!
- Hatcher 2017 Cab fruit is from the Duarte Georgetown Vineyards - located at 2,400'.

100% Cabernet Sauvignon45 day extended maceration30 months in American Oak: 20% new14.2% ABV

## Orisanna 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Mendocino AVA





- Mendocino County is one of CAs largest and climatically diverse AVAs.
- Many similarities with Napa & Sonoma same volcanic and tectonic forces shaped them both.
- Part of the larger North Coast AVA.
- Has highest % of organic vineyards in CA
- Orsianna Cab comes from cool-climate vineyards with riverbed soil, maritime influence, in the Mendocino AVA
- Goal was to make a cool-climate Cabernet to counter the higher-alcohol, fruit and oak-driven counterparts, moving away from "bigger is better"

### Gravel Bar 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley, WA Joshua Maloney, Winemaker



- Grapes come primarily from Wahluke Slope AVA in the Columbia Valley.
- Warmest region in WA, known for red varietals.
- Cab noted for ripe fruit with black cherries & cassis, with rich, jammy juicy fruit vs. super high tannins.
- Gravel Bar was founded in 1985 with a mission to "deliver quality Washington wines at an affordable price that anyone can enjoy."

Vintage 2017 100% Cabernet Sauvignon 14.5% ABV

# Thanks for Attending!

We will send a follow-up email with:

- Link to download the presentation & recording of today's session
- Short online survey -- we want your feedback!
- Online order form if you want to purchase any of the wines. All purchases will receive a 10% discount!

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