

J·DAVIES

jd

2018 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Diamond Mountain District

The Davies family, proprietors of Schramsberg Vineyards in Napa Valley, presents its thirteenth vintage of J. Davies Estate “jd” Cabernet Sauvignon. Like its companion J. Davies Estate bottlings, this red wine is crafted solely from the densely flavored, richly structured fruit grown on the family’s hillside property. Following the blending of J. Davies, winemakers Sean Thompson and Hugh Davies carefully select from the remaining barrels of wine to craft this offering. Vibrant and approachable as a young wine, the medium-bodied “jd” is released after two and a half years of aging. Bearing the initials of Jack Davies, who along with his wife, Jamie, revived the historic Schramsberg winery property in 1965, it is the product of an intimate knowledge of this place, and a passion to create delicious Cabernet Sauvignon.

The vineyard blocks, totaling 46 acres, are laid out in four isolated pockets ranging from 500 to 1000 feet in elevation. They include the two Schram sections, Napa Valley’s first hillside vineyards, originally established in 1862 by Jacob Schram, the McEachran parcel, first planted by Colin McEachran in 1878, and the Claes parcel, dating back to 1984. These are the southernmost vineyards in the Diamond Mountain District AVA. Flanked by two cool creek canyons (Nash Creek to the north and Ritchie Creek to the south) and surrounded by compact coniferous and deciduous forests, the vines here produce late-ripening, richly concentrated fruit with average yields of just two tons per acre.

The long growing season in 2018 revealed a vintage with structure and concentration without being overripe. Despite a warm February, the growing season started off cooler than the past few vintages. A cool spring meant bloom lasted longer than usual, which resulted in a bountiful crop. Summer temperatures were moderate with fewer heat spikes than in recent years. Veraison started later as well, and as a result, harvest started two to three weeks later than in recent years. The result was fruit exhibiting firm tannins, with outstanding color and brightness.



Tasting Notes

“The 2018 J. Davies Estate “jd” Cabernet opens with aromas of blackberry, currants, milk chocolate, and sour cherry, accentuated by fresh coffee, dense and dark dried plum, and red licorice. The palate’s lush entry of strawberry pie precedes a lightly floral mid-palate. Well-structured tannins are infused with a hint of dark chocolate, cocoa and vanilla, culminating with a bright and lively finish.”

– Winemakers Sean Thompson and Hugh Davies
– Consulting Winemaker Celia Welch

Varietal Composition:	88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Malbec, 6% Petit Verdot
Appellation:	Diamond Mountain District, Napa Valley, Estate Grown
Barrel Aging:	21 months in French oak, 50% new
Coopers:	Atelier, Taransaud, Boutes, Orion
Alcohol:	14.9%
TA:	0.56 g/100 mL
pH:	3.86
Harvest Dates:	October 4 - November 6, 2018
Bottling Date:	July 23, 2020
Release Date:	March 1, 2021
Cases Produced:	1,225 (9-Liter)
Suggested Retail:	\$70