

# OAKVILLE

NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2020



Penfolds single vineyard wines celebrate a geographical stamp and sense of place. After more than twenty years of winemaker exploration in the region, curiosity revealed an exceptional Oakville in Napa Valley that commanded attention. Sourced from Block 13A, Penfolds winemakers used time-honoured winemaking techniques during fermentation before the wine was matured for 16 months in French oak barriques to ensure consistent House Style. Provenance and sensitive winemaking reveal a wine with sleek tannins, age-worthy structure and modern exuberance – captured in bottle to share its wisdom for decades to come. Unique in character, this wine represents a continuum of endeavour unbound by country, vine or time with a single Oakville reference point.

## GRAPE VARIETY

Cabernet Sauvignon

## VINEYARD REGION

Napa Valley, Oakville

## WINE ANALYSIS

Alc/Vol: 14.5%, Acidity: 6.9 g/L, pH: 3.54

## MATURATION

16 months in French oak barriques (100% new)

## VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The 2020 season in Napa Valley began with a warm, dry winter. Decent rainfall and cooler weather didn't arrive until the end of March. Mild spring conditions provided a great early start to the growing season. Summer was characterised by very cool mornings and very warm days. The vintage proved to be one of the most challenging in history, with COVID restrictions and wildfires causing a range of logistical challenges. Nevertheless, our winemakers have leveraged small yields of high-quality, concentrated grapes to craft cabernet sauvignon of exceptional quality and intensity balanced by excellent acidity.

## COLOUR

Plum core, dark cherry

## NOSE

The gravelly soils of Oakville produce some of the best cabernet sauvignon grapes in the Napa Valley region, famed for their concentration.

A decant will bring the best out of this wine, allowing the aromatics to really come to life. Sweet notes from the *pasticceria*, with Italian *bomboloni* and *pasticciotti* cream tarts competing for attention. French brioche and *Pain d'épices* fruitcake are also noted, with a distinct baking spice lift. German *rote grütze* sago and berry pudding.

Savoury notes are led by Sicilian pizza toppings: salumi, anchovies, capers, oregano and bay leaf. Sage butter with seared veal sweetbreads is a surprising presence. The oak is alluring, providing a lovely framework for the generous fruit.

## PALATE

Brooding fruits weave across the palate, black berries, plums. The spice is well integrated, with subtle clove and black cardamom complementing the cola/sarsaparilla sweetness. Walnut texture and pecans flavours beckon. The acid runs seamlessly through the wine providing length and balance, while remaining tightly coiled.

Felt like tannins provide ample structure. A wine of class and distinction, at this early stage a vigorous decant is required. Will surely reward a long spell in the cellar.

## PEAK DRINKING

2025 - 2050

## LAST TASTED

March 2023