



## 2018 MARTIN STELLING VINEYARD®

Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville, Napa Valley



### VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The Martin Stelling Vineyard is located at the base of the western hills in Oakville and is the primary vineyard for Far Niente Cabernet Sauvignon. Nickel & Nickel is fortunate to farm two acres of this vineyard. The soils are composed of deep volcanic loam with underlying clay and gravel.

### HARVEST NOTES

The 2018 growing season kicked off in late February and eased into a mild spring that gave us extended flowering and uniform clusters throughout the vineyard. Summer continued this even trend, with consistent temperatures allowing fruit to have extended hang time. We saw zero heat spikes and were able to wait patiently for every cluster to achieve perfect phenolic maturity before we brought all of our fruit in on October 19. We took our time waiting for the fruit to reach just-right ripeness on the vine and the Cabernet came into the winery with mature tannins, and great acidity.

### SENSORY EVALUATION

The definition of compelling, the Stelling Cabernet opens with a black cherry and cassis perfume that instantly draws you in to sip. A crescendo of black cherry, blackberry, dried herb and baking spice build on the palate, while velvety tannins provide structure and lively acidity lifts and balances the intense fruit and spice flavors. Brooding, elegant and polished, the 2018 vintage offers up the very best of Western Oakville and only promises to grow more nuanced with time.

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### APPELLATION

Oakville, Napa Valley

### HARVEST DATE

October 19, 2018

### VARIETAL

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

### SKIN CONTACT

20 days

### AGING

French oak barrels  
(50% new, 50% once-used)

### TIME

18 months

### RELEASE DATE

September 2020

### FIRST VINTAGE

1997