



ULYSSES

2017 OAKVILLE - NAPA VALLEY

"To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield." – Alfred Lord Tennyson, Ulysses

Ulysses is a Cabernet Sauvignon with a touch of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot produced from Ulysses Vineyard, Oakville, California. Steeped in history, ULYSSES Vineyard, part of the original 1800's Charles Hopper Ranch, was acquired in 2008 by Christian Moueix. Along the Napa Valley's Oakville bench and extending over an alluvial fan at the foot of the Mayacamas Range, the site is exceptional for winegrowing. The soil is composed of deep, gravelly, clay loam and is particularly well-suited to growing Cabernet Sauvignon.

Since the acquisition, Christian Moueix and his team have pursued an in-depth understanding of the soil and microclimate and have undertaken a lengthy and meticulous vineyard restoration. Dry farming, the foundation of Ulysses' sustainable farming practices, enhances root depth and resistance to drought, resulting in a wine that is a pure expression of its terroir.

Our team's intention is to produce a wine reflecting the exceptional potential and individuality of the Ulysses Vineyard. Our approach is minimalist, with attentive observation and restrained intervention. Harvested at perfect ripeness and with the utmost care, the grapes undergo both cluster and berry selection before a gentle vinification and aging.



In 2017 the Ulysses wine label has been slightly modified, indicating the Oakville provenance, and bearing the signature of Christian Moueix.

Budbreak:	March 20
Bloom:	May 18
Veraison:	Aug 1
Harvest Start:	September 15
Harvest End:	October 3
Yields:	2.2 - 3.1 tons/acre
Bottling:	July 2019
Cases Produced:	1000
Release Date:	March 2021



WEATHER 2017: A very wet winter and spring, seasonal rainfall was twice the historical average. With soil water reserves full and warm temperatures in May and June, vines grew quickly and luxuriantly. Several significant heat waves were recorded in June, July, August, and September with a record-breaking 112F on September 1st. Ripening was fast and homogenous. The severe heat wave before harvest induced significant crop loss. To maintain quality, fruit selection was critical and resulted in our smallest vintage since 1988.

Winemaker's Notes: With black tea leaf and brioche, Ulysses 2017 delivers dense layer so deep cherry, balsamic, peat, forest berries and fresh walnut, woven through a finely grained texture, and a lingering warm cacao powder finish.

James Suckling 96 Points

#94 in James Suckling's Top 100 American Wines of 2020

Extremely aromatic with crushed berries, currants, flowers and hints of uncured tobacco leaf. Carnations. Medium to full body and extremely fine tannins that are firm and polished. Vertical tannins draw you down. Some blanched-walnut character to the blue fruit. Fresh and clean at the finish. Release in spring 2021.

So beautiful to drink now.

Wine Spectator 95 Points

This is packed with the ripe, vivid fruit of the vintage, sporting intense cassis, raspberry and blackberry flavors allied to prodigious structure in the form of licorice root and roasted apple wood notes. Rippling with muscle through the finish, but without being domineering, showing focus and detail. Like a Richard Serra, this is seemingly immense at first glance, but steadily pulls you in with its details. Best from 2022 through 2038.

