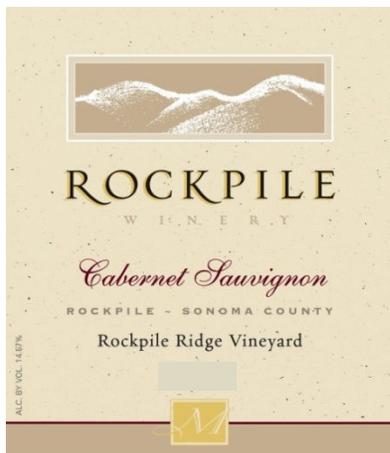




# MAURITSON

*Since 1868*



## 2016 Rockpile Cabernet Sauvignon *Rockpile Ridge Vineyard*

<b>Production:</b>	680 cases
<b>Appellation:</b>	Rockpile
<b>Composition:</b>	83% Cabernet Sauvignon 9% Malbec 4% Cabernet Franc 3% Merlot 1% Petit Verdot
<b>Vineyard:</b>	Rockpile Ridge Vineyard
<b>Alcohol:</b>	14.57 % by volume
<b>Aging:</b>	20 months in oak barrels 100% French

## Winemakers' Perspective

During the 2016 growing season we experienced minimal weather extremes. During veraison, which typically starts late July to early August, we had mornings with persistent marine layers and cool afternoon breezes. As a result, the berries continued to expand and resulted in 2-3 extra passes in the vineyard to fine tune cluster morphology and distribution of the clusters in the fruiting zone. This attention to detail resulted in a Rockpile Cabernet Sauvignon with great distinction and energy.

For our 2016 Rockpile Cabernet Sauvignon we blended nearly 10% of our Rockpile Malbec to lock in the beautiful color and add subtle floral notes. After nearly 14 months of barrel aging, we tasted every barrel to tease out each nuance that our 'spice rack' could offer. The small percentages of Cabernet Franc and Merlot added more red fruit and a hint of fresh forest floor while the 1% of Petit Verdot brought a level of seriousness to the wine that we loved.

Aromas rich in detail: ripe black fruit, roasted coffee, anise, and sweet loam give way to a beautiful pulse of shaved nutmeg. Concentrated dark fruit overlay broad and bold tannins. A defining freshness carries itself through to the long and rewarding finish. Young and slightly brutish right now, this incredible wine would benefit from at least 24 more months in the bottle to truly reveal its inner beauty. Enjoy over the next 15+ years.

Cheers,

Clay Mauritsen  
Winemaker

Emma Kudritzki Hall  
Associate Winemaker

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