2021 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**VINEYARD DESCRIPTION**
Bella Union was founded by the partners of Far Niente to specialize in the art of blending Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. The cornerstone of the blend is our 25-acre vineyard in Rutherford, along Bella Oaks Lane, a country road that was historically called Bella Union. The vineyard is planted primarily to Cabernet Sauvignon in well-drained loam, and the vines range from 20 – 30 years of age. Classic varietals of Malbec, Cabernet Franc and Petite Verdot sourced from select Napa Valley vineyards complete the blend.

**HARVEST NOTES**
With very little winter rain, the 2021 growing season began under drought conditions. An equally dry spring punctuated with the windiest May in recent years brought us early budbreak and bloom. The summer months were mild with few heat spikes, allowing the vines to slowly ripen and yield small but intensely flavored grapes. An outstanding growing season for the vineyards, the closer we got to harvest, we continued to see excellent quality all around with the intensity of flavor observed in the vineyard continuing in the winery.

**SENSORY EVALUATION**
The 2021 Bella Union Napa Valley Cabernet possesses beautiful and intriguing aromas of dark plum, black cherry, hints of clove and barrel spice. The palate is well-structured with velvety tannins complemented by generous layers of fruit flavors of blackberry, fig, and raspberry preserves that give way to a melting finish.

**APPELLATION**
Napa Valley

**VARIETALS**
77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot, 5% Malbec, 2% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot

**FERMENTATION**
Stainless Steel (97%) and concrete (3%)

**HARVEST DATE**
September 15 - October 13, 2021

**AGING**
French oak barrels
50% new, 50% neutral

**TIME**
17 months in barrel

**SKIN CONTACT**
19 days, average

**RELEASE DATE**
Fall 2023

**WINEMAKER**
Brooke Bobyak-Price

**VICE PRESIDENT OF WINEMAKING**
Andrew Delos