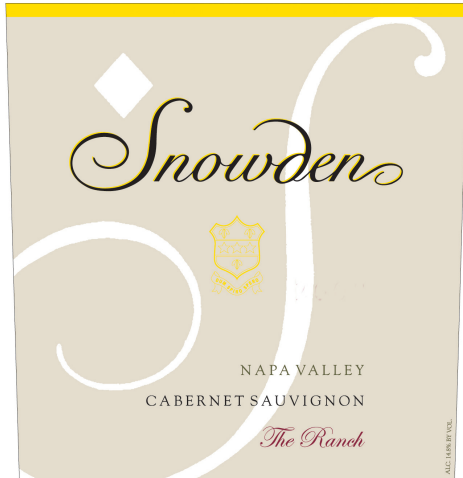


Snowden

CABERNET SAUVIGNON THE RANCH - 2017

Snowden
VINEYARDS
NAPA VALLEY

REGION: CALIFORNIA - NAPA VALLEY



SNOWDEN

Since 1955, the Snowdens have farmed their vineyard high above the Napa Valley. In addition to the stunning views of St. Helena, Rutherford and the San Francisco Bay, the estate offers four separate sites producing remarkably complex and individualistic wines. Winemaking duties are in the capable hands of Diana Snowden Seysses. The winery produces Bordeaux blends from their estate vineyards and a small amount of Sauvignon Blanc from a small parcel they call the Lost Vineyard.

GRAPES / SOILS

Wine	Blend	Vine Age	Soil Type	Vineyard Area ha or acres
Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch	Cabernet Sauvignon 85%, Merlot 15%	Planted 1994, 1997, and 2011	Rhyolite (volcanic) sand	8.9 acres

THE WINE

Vineyard Profile

- Cabernet from Pool Block at 650 feet altitude and Lost Orchard at 800 feet altitude
- Merlot from Lost Vineyard
- Soils: Rhyolite (volcanic sand)

Harvest Notes

- Hand harvested between 9/6 and 9/26/2017
- Fermented with native yeasts only
- Malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels, 50% new, 50% used
- Aged in barrels 17 months
- Bottled unfinned, unfiltered in April 2019

Winemaker's Notes

2017 Ranch is a classic, compelling Cabernet-driven wine. It opens with inviting aromas of pencil lead, black plums, and brambles. On the palate there are equal measures of structure and generous fruit, reminding me of two stone arrowheads I recently found walking the vineyards at the ranch – once a regular occurrence, these were our first such finds in more than 30 years. The Ranch 2017 is just perfect in proportion, precision, and weight. Polished and strong, this wine can be enjoyed immediately and over the next 10 years.

Technical Information

- 85% Cabernet Sauvignon; 15% Merlot
- Alcohol: 13.8%

REVIEWS

Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch – 2017

90 Points - Vinous - Antonio Galloni, January, 2020

The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch is an attractive, mid-weight wine that shows the more gracious, understated side of the year. Floral and spice notes give the 2017 lovely aromatics to play off a core of sweet red berry fruit. This is a very pretty wine. 2020-2030

16.5 Points - JancisRobinson.com, January, 2019

Silky and polished – not chasing intensity. Tannins a little dusty on the end, but a welcome change from turbo-charged. 2019 – 2026

91 Points - Wine Spectator, November, 2020

This is nicely packed, showing polished cassis and plum reduction notes layered with smoldering tobacco accents and a hint of alder. A touch toothy through the finish as the toast hangs on, but the fruit core is plenty solid, and that should win out with some cellaring. Best from 2021 through 2030.

GENERAL INFO

Country	USA
Region	Napa Valley
Appellation(s)	Napa Valley
Proprietors	Scott and Joann Snowden and Randy and Janet Snowden, managing directors of Snowden Vineyards
Founded	1955
Winemaker	Diana Snowden-Seysse
Annual Production	2,900 9L cases
Farming (Sustainable, organic, biodynamic)	Sustainable (including no chemical herbicides used in vineyards)