

FAR MOUNTAIN

From vineyards located in remote mountain areas of Sonoma, Far Mountain produces wines as dazzling and expressive as its sites.



Fission Cabernet Sauvignon 2020

Sonoma, California

ESTATE

Far Mountain is based on the belief that some of the greatest potential for wine in California - and anywhere in the world - exists in remote pockets in the mountains of the Sonoma Valley. The growers they work with have taken decades of risks in both planting their vineyards and the farming choices they make today. The winery's work is to channel the drama of these surroundings into wines that dazzle with energy and stand out immediately. Wines that bring a sheer pleasure in their flavors and textures, as well as unfold slowly, with never ending detail and fascination. It is a specific vision, literally chiselled by the landscape.

WINE

Fission is a pure mountain wine, with a dark depth of fruit chiseled by the cool elevation of its vineyard site. A wine of texture, with the intensity and sappy concentration we associate with old vines, it builds into powerful tannins that remain refined, almost cloaked by the seductiveness of the fruit and the gently building structure. The name Fission was ultimately chosen to reference the textural and mineral characteristics that the unique volcanic soil brings to this wine.

VINEYARD

Alta Vista: This vineyard lies north of the town of Sonoma in the Moon Mountain AVA. The vines are over 50 years old, penetrating deep (20-40 feet) into volcanic soils with basalt and decomposed, fractured granite. Extensive differences in elevation and exposures of this southfacing amphitheater bring spectacular complexity to the wines. *Farming:* Unbelievably for the region, dry-farmed since it was planted in 1971. Planted on St. George rootstock, and farming is certified organic.

WINEMAKING

Variety: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, destemmed trying to keep whole berries, with very gentle pressing
Fermentation: Open top with minimal punchdowns and pumpovers, native yeasts carry out fermentation; never racked until blending before bottling.
Aging: 12 months, 27% new oak, remainder 1, 2 and 3-year-old barrels
Alcohol: 14%

VINTAGE

2020 was a dry growing season. Winter was moderate temperatures with just above 10 inches of rain, setting off budbreak 10 days earlier than usual. A mild spring slowed things down allowing healthy canopy growth. Hot summer days, encouraged the vines to ripen slowly and clusters to develop mountain complexity. Harvest begun 10 days earlier than previous years. The vines self regulated and showed lower yields from the very beginning. There were signs of concentration and density that amplified the character of the mountain site. Dry farming, elevation, and older vines have become the signature in these wines which allows the team to offset challenges and variabilities of a vintage.

92

vinous

"Packed with scents of blackberry, coffee, dried savory herbs, lavender, mocha and spice. This potent, strapping Moon Mountain Cabernet packs a pretty big punch." -A.G., 8/23

92

Wine Enthusiast

90

Wine Spectator