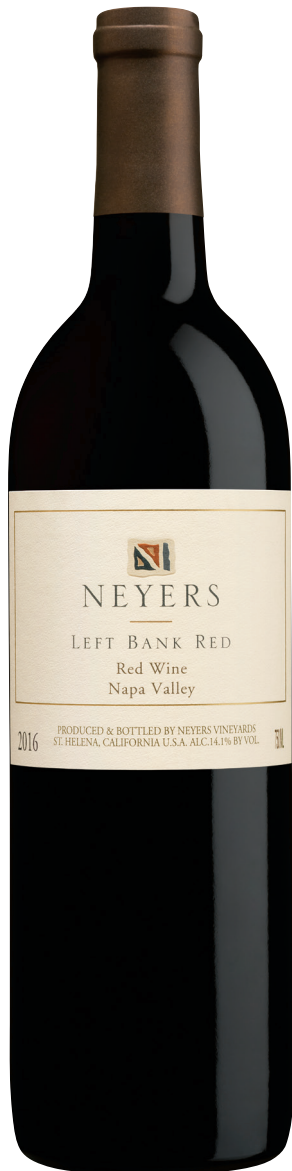




NEYERS

LEFT BANK RED

Red Wine
Napa Valley
2016



A WINE WITH A SENSE OF PLACE

“After drilling a new well on our Conn Valley ranch, the drilling report gave us details of the soil on the way to the eventual water strike at a depth of around 150 feet. The drill bit encountered a gravel deposit at 14 feet, then continued through gravel for 24 feet before it hit sandstone at 38 feet. Then followed a layer of clay-loam before the drill struck the aquifer. This gravel deposit is an important backdrop to the grapes we grow here. We learned of this geological phenomenon just a few months after we bought the property in 1984.

Both Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot are vigorous grape varieties, even when grafted on to sluggish rootstock and farmed for low yields. A deep gravel deposit serves to restrict that natural vigor. We admire the wines from Bordeaux, for example, especially those made from grapes grown in the gravel soils of the Médoc. A big part of the attraction comes from the naturally low yields of these vineyards. We originally planted Merlot along our creek bank, then a decade later after buying a neighboring parcel, we planted Cabernet Sauvignon. For the past few vintages, we have blended the wines from these two parcels, aged the blend one year in French oak barrels, then bottled it as Left Bank Red. It’s about 50% of each variety, but that composition varies from year to year according to weather and crop yields.

I’ve been attracted to the wines of the Médoc over the course of my career, so I’m inclined to draw a comparison between them and our Left Bank Red blend. I don’t look for opulence in wine from gravelly soil as much as I like to see balance, minerality and elegance. Most importantly, we regularly find in the Neyers Left Bank Red flavors that are restrained – a sensational taste experience that is neither overwhelming nor lavish. We prefer this traditional style of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon blends. They express nuance over opulence, and age beautifully for years. Here is an ideal example of that wine.” –Bruce Neyers

ORIGIN: Napa Valley

VINEYARD: 60% Neyers Ranch, 40% Nord Vineyard in Yountville

BARREL PROGRAM: French oak (25% new)

COMPOSITION: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 50% Merlot

ALCOHOL: 14.3%

CASES PRODUCED: 1,855