



## Cabernet Franc

### 2019

#### *Wine Advocate*

“The 2019 Cabernet Franc is a blend of 78% Cabernet Franc, 16% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot and 2% Merlot. Deep garnet-purple colored, the nose springs forth with notions of blueberry preserves, redcurrant jelly and boysenberries, plus wafts of bay leaves, pencil shavings and red roses. The palate is a medium to full-bodied, tightly knit, structured style with a ripe, fine-grained and refreshing line supporting the bright red and blue fruits, finishing with fantastic length.”

**95 Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character. In short, these are terrific wines**

*-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, November 2021*

#### *JamesSuckling.com*

“James had a preview into the greatness of the 2019 Napa Valley vintage, which appears to have produced reds with a little more depth and intensity than the super-balanced 2018. A Zoom interview with **Cyril Chappellet** and winemaker **Phillip Corallo-Titus** to taste their top reds from the vintage revealed the greatness of the year.

#### **2019 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

This shows **gorgeous** and very primary fruit with currants, black cherries and hints of flowers. It’s medium-bodied with fine tannins and long, intense purity and primary character. Crushed grapes. Fresh acidity. Finesse. So tasty now. Drink or hold.” **94 Points: Outstanding**

*-James Suckling, October 2020*

### 2018

#### *JebDunnuck.com*

#### **“Napa Valley 2018 – A Great Vintage”**

“The wines show a beautiful sense of freshness and purity, and at times can have an almost Bordeaux-like character in their tannins, acids, and textures.

#### **2018 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

A smoking value, the 2018 Cabernet Franc has textbook Cabernet Franc darker, almost blue fruits as well as gorgeous floral, leather, spice, and incense aromatics. Medium to full-bodied, it has a similar supple elegance that conceals solid underlying tannins and concentration. It can be drunk today with plenty of pleasure, yet a good 3-4 years of bottle age will do it well, and it should evolve gracefully over the following 10-15 years.” **96 Points: As good as it gets. These wines reach the peak of my personal scale of quality.**

*-Jeb Dunnuck, January 2021*

### ***Wine Advocate***

“The 2018 Cabernet Franc is a blend of 75% Cabernet Franc, 15% Cabernet sauvignon, 4% Petit Verdot and 6% Malbec. It was aged for 22 months in French oak barrels, 60% new. The alcohol weighed in at 14.5%. Deep garnet-purple in color, bright, cheery red and black fruit notes of red currant jelly, blackberry pie, Morello cherries and boysenberries spring from the glass, followed by nuances of pencil shavings, red roses, raspberry leaves and cinnamon stick. Medium to full-bodied, the palate displays compelling purity, featuring bags of crunchy black berry flavors and ripe, finely grained tannins to support, finishing with a lively skip in its step. Drink Date: 2021 – 2039.”

**95+ Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character. In short, these are terrific wines**

*-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, November 2020*

### ***JamesSuckling.com***

“**What a luscious, succulent cabernet franc** with blue fruit, chocolate and some hazelnut and walnut undertones. It’s full and layered with a round, creamy-tannin texture that gives form and texture to the wine. Drink or hold.” **94 Points: Outstanding**

*-James Suckling, October 2020*

### ***Vinous***

**“Napa Valley’s Thrilling 2018s & 2019s”**

Napa Valley experienced two stunning back-to-back vintages in 2018 and 2019 the likes of which I have never seen. Both vintages produced a bevy of breathtaking wines that will thrill Napa Valley fans. The 2018s are refined and vibrant.

#### **Chappellet**

**The 2018s are impressive across the board.** Winemaker Phillip Corallo-Titus favors a style that melds textural fruit opulence with mountain structure.

#### **2018 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

The 2018 Cabernet Franc is a potent, heady wine. Dried herbs, tobacco, crushed rocks, menthol, licorice, crème de cassis, spice and chocolate are all laced together in the glass. I would give the 2018 a few years in bottle to shed some of its baby fat.” **94 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

*-Antonio Galloni, March 2021*

### ***Lewin on Wine***

“Nose offers sense of chocolate and tobacco, following to palate which shows some breadth with furry tannins on the finish—softer than the precision and structure of the Cabernet Sauvignon. Starts out quite primary but Phillip Titus says it should start to develop secondary characters after 6-8 years. Drink - 2033” **91 Points**

*-Dr. Benjamin Lewin, July 2021*

## **2017**

### ***Forbes.com***

“Freshly fallen autumn leaves with graphite and sage that intermixed with flavors of black cherries, raspberries and toasted spice with a slight grip on the tannins that formed a firm frame for the wine that help to focus an enchanting lavender aroma on the focused finish. Chappellet has been making

a Cabernet Franc varietal bottling for over 25 years despite it only recently gaining popularity in Napa Valley.”

*-Cathrine Todd, August 2020*

### ***Wine Review Online***

“Here is another ‘wow’ from Chappellet Winery – a Cabernet Franc that combines flash and finesse in ways seductive. Full throttle black cherry fruit gets wrapped in soft fall spice and easy oak toast, and varietal olive tones round everything in the mid palate out beautifully, and the finish shows touches of cocoa and fresh roasted coffee. **Year in and year out, this wine delivers the goods.** Contains 12% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Malbec and 3% Petit Verdot.” **96 Points**

*-Rich Cook, October 2020*

### ***Wine.com***

“The 2017 Chappellet Cabernet Franc is **an outstanding wine by any measurement.** This wine saturates the palate with attractive and classic aromas and flavors of black fruits, lilacs, and oak. Enjoy it with a grilled Porterhouse steak.” **95 Points**

*-Wilfred Wong, June 2020*

### ***Wine Advocate***

“Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Cabernet Franc displays pronounced red and black cherries, mulberries and warm raspberries scents with underlying blueberries, pencil shavings and dried Provence herbs plus a waft of lavender. Medium to full-bodied, the palate offers mouth-filling red and blue fruits with a firm, grainy frame and bold freshness, finishing long and perfumed.”

**93 Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character. In short, these are terrific wines**

*-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, October 2019*

### ***JebDunnuck.com***

“Lastly, the 2017 Cabernet Franc comes from Napa Valley (I'm not exactly sure where the fruit is from) and is all varietal. It's a more opulent wine than the Cabernet and has considerable fruit, richness, and depth on the palate, loads of dark, chocolaty fruit, and terrific notes of spring flowers, gravelly earth, forest floor, and hints of espresso. **Beautifully done and balanced,** with sweet tannins, **it's a beautiful wine.**” **93 Points: Outstanding wines. These wines are outstanding for their type and are worth the extra effort to seeking out.**

*-Jeb Dunnuck, January 2019*

### ***JamesSuckling.com***

“Lots of crushed-blackberry and floral aromas with raspberries, too. Very clear and bright. Full-bodied, dense and crisp with lots of fruit, yet it remains tight and toned. Some hot stones at the finish. Pretty big wine, but shows tension. Drink or hold.” **93 Points: Outstanding**

*-James Suckling, February 2020*

### ***Vinous***

“The 2017 Cabernet Franc is a gorgeous wine with tons of character. Bright red cherry, red plum, spice, graphite, dried flowers, mint and a whole range of spice notes infuse the Franc with tons of flavor complexity. Juicy and pliant, with terrific purity, the Franc is a clear winner in this range. 2022 – 2032.” **91 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

*-Antonio Galloni, January 2020*

*The Press Democrat*

“An elegant cab franc with layered flavors of black cherry, sage and clove. Great structure. Note of cedar on the finish. Silky texture. Pretty.” ★★★★★ **4 Stars: Highly recommended**

-Peg Melnik, January 2021

*PaperCity Magazine*

**“Your Guide to Great Summer Wines — Spectacular Sparkling, Rosé, White and Red Picks”**

“Summer is fully in swing, and though it will be over before we know it, and will certainly be a, let’s say, unique, season, there is no reason for you to go without wine, especially wines new to you. (It’s always a good idea to buy something unfamiliar to you on a regular basis, while still enjoying your tried-and-true favorites.)”

**2017 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

-James Brock, July 2020

*The Aspen Times*

“Originally planted over 50 years ago by Donn Chappellet, the hillside vineyards are revered for their volcanic soils and the mountain grown Cabernet Sauvignon that hails from the slopes. I happened to have a bottle of this young concentrated and dark Cabernet Franc.”

-Kelly J. Hayes, September 2020

## **2016**

*Wine Advocate*

“The very deep garnet-purple colored 2016 Cabernet Franc comes sashaying out of the glass with tantalizing rose hip tea, baked raspberries and forest floor scents with a core of redcurrant jelly and black cherry pie plus hints of menthol and pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, the palate reveals impressive tension and bags of energetic red fruits, framed by grainy tannins and finishing long and perfumed.” **97 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, October 2018

*JebDunnuck.com*

“The 2016 Cabernet Franc is a beautiful expression of the variety and has a classic, complex, seamless style in its flowery blue and black fruits, forest floor, damp earth, blood orange, and leafy herbs. Pure, elegant, and perfectly balanced, with great intensity and depth, it will be better with short-term cellaring and drink beautifully for 15 years or more. Even at this price, it's a smoking value.” **97 Points: As good as it gets. These wines reach the peak of my personal scale of quality.**

-Jeb Dunnuck, January 2019

*JebDunnuck.com*

**“Top 100 Red Wines of 2019”**

“The below list is a selection of the top red wines that were tasted over the past year and reviewed at JebDunnuck.com. The 2016s from Napa Valley and Bordeaux dominate the Top 100 this year, and this was a brilliant vintage for both regions.

The selection is based on a combination of overall quality, price, availability, and a little bit of Wow Factor, and was made by scrolling through over 10,400 reviews (which is a record number of reviews in 12 months for yours truly) and painstakingly cutting the list to these 100 wines.”

**74. 2016 Chappellet Cabernet Franc – 97 Points: As good as it gets. These wines reach the peak of my personal scale of quality.**

*-Jeb Dunnuck, December 2019*

**Fort Bend Focus Magazine**

**“One of the Great Pioneers in Napa Valley”**

**2016 Chappellet Cabernet Franc – 97 Points**

*-Denman Moody, April 2019*

**Creators.com**

“This wine reminds me of the great Cheval Blanc, from the Saint-Emilion district of Bordeaux. It offers notes of cassis and red currant, flavors I typically associate with fine Bordeaux, and a classic structure that exhibits firmness despite its richness and depth. Though it shows well now, it would benefit from additional cellar age. In the very small world of California Cabernet Franc (I should note it’s 76 percent Cabernet Franc, with Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Petit Verdot rounding out the blend) this is among the top two or three produced.” **95 Points**

*-Robert Whitley, September 2019*

**JamesSuckling.com**

**“2016: Napa’s Fifth Consecutive Outstanding Vintage”**

“Napa Valley is releasing another outstanding vintage for reds with the 2016, making it the fifth top year in a row for the Sunshine State.

**2016 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

Shows a fresh, foresty edge of cabernet franc with a thread of attractive, toasty oak across some quite dark berries and cassis. The palate has an assertively focused style with seamless, smooth darker-fruit flavors. Plush finish. Drink or hold.” **94 Points: Outstanding**

*-James Suckling, November 2018*

**Vinous**

**Chappellet**

“This range of new releases from Chappellet shows off the 2016 vintage to great effect. The wines are nuanced, open-knit and spectacularly delicious.

**2016 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

The 2016 Cabernet Franc (Napa Valley) is a very pretty and expressive wine with lovely varietal character and nuance. Pliant red and purplish fruit, along with expressive Franc aromatics, yield a racy, layered wine loaded with personality and character. Mocha, game, tobacco, rose petal, and blood orange all shape the nuanced finish. The 2016 can be enjoyed with minimal cellaring or cellared for another decade-plus.” **92 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

*-Antonio Galloni, December 2018*

**Wine Enthusiast**

“This wine opens in thick, burly tannin, black fruit, dust and sage, showing its additions of 16% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Malbec and 3% Petit Verdot. Tar, smoky oak, grilled meat and coffee

round out the experience, while a softness builds on the finish.” **92 Points, Editors’ Choice: Excellent; highly recommended**

*-Virginie Boone, November 2019*

### ***Houston Chronicle***

**“These Napa and Spanish reds offer major bang for buck”**

**“Top Pick: 2016 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

**Overall score:** 18.7 (9.2 for quality, 9.5 for value)

**Our tasters:** Gave it a unanimous recommendation with seven scores of at least 9. ‘Ripe blackberries and violets. A pretty wine!’

**My score:** 9.4. While I don’t like singling out wines that are available only online, it was too good to dismiss. A ‘Wow!’ wine by any measure.

**Winery/vineyards/winemaking:** Donn and Molly Chappellet were first captivated by Napa Valley’s steep and rocky Pritchard Hill in the late 1960s and, encouraged by Napa Valley savant André Tchelistcheff they became pioneers at high-elevation vineyard planting. The Chappellets didn’t put any cabernet franc in the ground until 1989, but they quickly discovered that Pritchard Hill’s volcanic soils, ideal for developing ripe, concentrated flavors, were perfect for the varietal. Cab franc (76 percent) is blended with cabernet sauvignon, malbec and petit verdot, and the wine was bottled after spending 22 months in French oak barrels, 60 percent new.”

*-Dale Robertson, November 2019*

### ***The Colorado Springs Gazette***

**“The Chappellet family has been producing highly prized wines from their perch on Pritchard Hill since 1967.** Renowned for their cabernet sauvignon, this wine arguably is equally impressive. It is richly perfumed, silky, yet well structured and delivers a complex of ripe, concentrated red fruits, forest and savory spices.”

*-Rich Mauro, December 2019*

### ***The Aspen Times***

“In a winter that just keeps on giving, that means yes, it is still snowing in the mountains, I have been slow to transition from seasonal reds to the wines of summer. That has given me the opportunity to enjoy one of winemaker Phillip Corallo-Titus’ (winemaker at Chappellet since 1990) **magnificent wines.** This cab franc from Pritchard Hill is robust, concentrated and filled with the flavors of the California mountains. Aside from the gorgeous fruit on the palate, the sage, soil and smoke on the nose make this a joy to linger with on a snowy eve.”

*-Kelly J. Hayes, May 2019*

## **2015**

### ***Wine Review Online***

“This will convert any naysayers that I can think of when it comes to domestic Cabernet Franc. Pritchard Hill fruit, perfectly ripened, showing black and blue fruit, tamed herbs and mocha notes in aroma and flavor profiles. It all comes to life on a plush palate where everything floats together and hangs around until the next sip. I’d age this a couple of years for full integration of the oak tones,

but fans of bright spice should dig right in. Contains 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Malbec and 4% Petit Verdot.” **94 Points**

-*Rich Cook, August 2018*

### ***Wine Enthusiast***

“A good 15% Cabernet Sauvignon is blended within this wine, as well as 4% each of Malbec and Petit Verdot. Impressive, it offers rich notions of dark chocolate and graham cracker that present as round and richly soft. A bright streak of acidity contrasts well, refreshing the palate under cover of creamy oak.” **93 Points: Excellent; highly recommended**

-*Virginie Boone, November 2018*

### ***Bonfort's Wine and Spirits Journal***

“Chappellet Winery has been crafting wine for over 50 years. It has always been a Cabernet Sauvignon house, but hiding in the shadows is its stellar Cabernet Franc. Made of Cabernet Franc with 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 4% each of Malbec and Petite Verdot, this is a generous wine, popping with red and black berry flavor and giving you something different, something softer, smoother and more approachable.

There are strong notes of blackberry, black cherry, boysenberry, sweet vanilla, smoke and anise make the wine in your glass immensely drinkable. There's a terrific acidity that supports the 22 months aging in French oak, 60% of which were new barrels. It's an enjoyable and complete wine, something that will work for everyone given its mild tannins and ubiquitous flavors.

What Can I Pair it With? Cast iron beef tips with mushroom-onion gravy; Coq au Vin; Roast lamb with rosemary and garlic.” **92 Points**

-*Michael Cervin, November 2018*

### ***Wine & Spirits***

“This wine is black without being pruney or superripe. It's focused on flavors of dark herbs and black cherries, with some red-cherry relief in the middle, then it only seems to go darker in the end. Smoky and dense, this is a substantial cabernet that happens to be franc.” **91 Points: Delicious, compelling; a compelling wine of its region; a delicious, finessed expression of place**

-*Josh Greene, October 2018*

### ***Check, Please! Bay Area***

“One of Napa Valley's celebrated wineries, Chappellet is not only one collectors covet, but everyday drinkers cherish. This is the best California Cabernet Franc I have ever tasted. Rich yet restrained, intense yet refreshing, and complex yet approachable. It showcases the grape's dark berry fruit and herbal undertones while layering on a lush texture and espresso coffee aromas. Ready to drink now with decanting and a hearty steak, it can also age for decades.”

-*Leslie Sbrocco, September 2018*

### ***The Colorado Springs Gazette***

“Although cabernet sauvignon, pinot noir, zinfandel and merlot remain the most popular red wine grapes in California, you — like me — might crave something different now and then. Here are a few of the most interesting alternatives — mostly Bordeaux and Rhône varieties — I've tasted in recent months.

And then there is cabernet franc, which also plays a supporting role in Bordeaux blends. It is noted for bold red fruits, discreet acidity and savory bell pepper. Although pricey, the supple, luscious **2015 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**, from one of Napa Valley's best wineries, bursts with deep fruit, vanilla, mocha and brown spice."

*-Rich Mauro, October 2018*

### ***Culturocity***

**"Boy, that Chappellet Cabernet Franc!"**

**"Chappellet produces exceptional Cabernet Franc** from grapes grown on a hillside vineyard.

Several years ago a friend of ours began waxing poetic about Cabernet Franc, the relatively rare grape varietal that, along with Sauvignon Blanc, is thought to have been an unintentional parent grape for a little hybrid known as Cabernet Sauvignon. This friend has only modest experience with wine, didn't mention any particular vineyards, and was hard-pressed to articulate the specifics of his adoration.

'Boy, that Cab Franc!' was about as specific as he got, in fact. We'd nod and smile, still puzzled by this sudden eruption of support for a wine variety that was usually difficult to find.

It's highly unlikely that he was referring to the 2015 Chappellet Cabernet Franc. However, when we tried it recently, we were surprised – thrilled, even – by the depth of flavors and layers of structure.

The winery has been one of only two Napa Valley vintners to celebrate 50 years of post-Prohibition wine production, and one of the few that is still family-owned. On the advice of **legendary winemaker Andre Tchelistcheff**, founders Donn and Molly Chappellet settled on Pritchard Hill in 1967, carving out 48 distinctive vineyard blocks that produce some truly exquisite wines.

Vineyard manager Dave Pirio and winemaker Phillip Corallo-Titus (shown below) have turned these blocks into a veritable playground of quality and creativity, of which the 2015 Cabernet Franc, with its blend of its namesake grape, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Petit Verdot, is a prime example.

Aromas of blueberry, blackberry, coffee and herbs greet you from the glass, followed by a complexity of other aromas. The complex, elegantly structured wine showcases a firm, supple palate of dark fruits and darker chocolate, with hints of oak, smoke and toast from its time spent aging in French oak barrels.

**Boy, that Cab Franc? Yes, but boy, that Chappellet."**

*-Mike and Jean Muckian, July 2018*

### ***South Florida Reporter***

"Not many producers can make a cabernet franc with this kind of depth and dimension. Although blended with cabernet sauvignon, malbec and petit verdot, it is the cabernet franc character that comes through. Made from mountain-grown grapes, it has great concentration with varietal blueberry, cassis and blackberry flavors. The 22 months it spends in French oak barrels adds smoke, vanilla and clove to the profile. Wow, quite a wine."

*-Tom Marquardt and Patrick Darr, June 7, 2018*

## 2014

### *International Wine Report*

“This impressive Cabernet Franc from Chappellet also includes 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Malbec and 6% Merlot in the final blend. It begins with aromas of ripe blackberries, dark cherries, sage, mocha, sweet spices and hints of loam. On the palate this is full-bodied round and voluptuous, with excellent depth and concentration. Layers of ripe dark fruits continue to build up to the long supple finish. This is a fabulous wine which is already offering plenty of early appeal, yet possesses the potential to age gracefully for a decade and beyond.” **94 Points**

*-Joe D'Angelo January 2018*

### *Houston Lifestyles & Homes*

#### **“Chappellet’s 50th Anniversary: Raising A Glass To A Wine Pioneer”**

“Pritchard Hill is now one of the most famous vineyard-designated wine spots in the world for the production of Cabernet Sauvignon, with world-class neighbors such as Colgin and Continuum attesting to that fact. But the pioneers were the Chappellets.

When Phillip Corallo-Titus became winemaker in 1990, the tide began to turn slowly toward more ripe fruit and tender tannins, so that today, the wines still have a fabulous future, but are drinkable at release.

The current winery offerings from Chappellet are all outstanding.”

#### **2014 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

“76 percent Cabernet Franc, 9 percent Cabernet Sauvignon, 9 percent Malbec and 6 percent Merlot make up the blend for one of the most exciting versions of Cabernet Franc produced in California.”

*-Denman Moody, March 2018*

### *Northbay Biz*

#### **“Top Napa Valley Cab Francs”**

*-Monty and Sara Preiser, October 4, 2017*

## 2013

### *Wine Review Online*

“Another full throttle Cabernet Franc from Chappellet, **embracing the best characteristics of the grape**, from bold black cherry fruit to sage and pepper, with notes of dusty chocolate, cedar chest and black fruit adding complexity and depth. Supple tannins keep all the flavors together through a long, rich finish. There’s aging potential here as you’d expect – give this a long decant near term, or start checking the cellar in about five years from now.” **96 Points**

*-Rich Cook, August 29, 2017*

### *Wine Enthusiast*

#### **“Top 100 Cellar Selections 2017”**

“Of the more than 22,000 wines reviewed in the last year, less than four percent were deemed worthy of our Cellar Selection designation. From that list, we further narrowed our selection to an exclusive 100 wines, each chosen for its prestige, ageability and immense quality.”

#### **#83 – 2013 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

“This is **an impressively well-crafted, and beautiful wine**, blended with 12% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Malbec, the main variety mountain-grown on Pritchard Hill. It shines in big, bold and

powerfully built black fruit and leather. Dusty, firm tannins and a taste of graphite, coffee and tar are also highly evident. The finish is tart and seasoned in white pepper.” **94 Points, *Cellar Selection: Superb; a great achievement***

*-Virginia Boone, October 2017*

### ***WineSpeed***

#### **“Wine of the Week”**

“I love the ‘completeness’ of this wine. From start to finish, its heartbeat is evident throughout the whole sensory arc of the wine. And then there’s what I call its ‘green-blackness’—a signature aroma and flavor of cabernet franc in California. Green-blackness is a long, sleek, savory character that’s one part tar/tobacco and one part dried sage. Chappellet’s cabernet franc nails it—and with beauty besides. Haven’t had a cabernet franc in a while? This could be your inducement.” **94 Points**

*-Karen MacNeil, March 2016*

### ***Vinous***

“The Chappellets were the early pioneers of Pritchard Hill and remain one of the leading families in Napa Valley. This is a superb set of new releases.”

#### **2013 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

“The 2013 Cabernet Franc is a super-distinctive wine. Powerful, deep and succulent, the 2013 exudes personality. The Chappellet Cabernet Franc is probably best described as a red blend given the high percentages of Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec. Inky blue/purplish fruit, lavender, menthol, sage and spice are nicely pushed forward. This is an unusually supple 2013 that will drink well with minimal cellaring. Silky tannins give the wine its finesse. This is a beautiful wine from Chappellet. 2018 – 2028” **93 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

*-Antonio Galloni, December 2016*

### ***San Francisco Chronicle***

#### **“Cab Franc steps into the spotlight”**

“Ask to try the rosy, feminine 2013 Cabernet Franc, which smells like cedar and sweet sage, and tastes like damson plum.”

*-Esther Mobley, February 2016*

### ***Forbes.com***

#### **“What California Winery Anniversaries Can Teach About Success In Wine And Business”**

“It is a testament to the spirit and excitement of the California wine industry every time a great producer celebrates a major anniversary, as well as an opportunity to look back at how they have evolved over the decades, and how they’ve remained the same in some important ways. It’s also a great excuse to open up a bottle from one of them to be reminded, especially given the fires earlier this month, of just how delicious the wines can be, and how remarkable and resilient the people who tend the vines and craft the wine really are.”

#### **2013 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

“Effusive and generous, the plush texture carrying notes of black cherries, crème brûlée, fig molasses, cigar humidor, and roasted cacao nibs. Great now and for the next decade and a half.”

*-Brian Freedman, October 2017*

*The Daily Meal*

**“Chappellet: A Secluded Napa Valley Gem**

**This veteran estate has been producing excellent wine for half a century”**

“Copious leather and Bing cherry aromas nearly explode from the nose here. The palate is studded with a procession of red and black cherry flavors that are accompanied by spice, earth, and bits of minerals. Dark, dusty chocolate, chicory, and white pepper are all evident on the long finish.”

-Gabe Sasso, August 2017

**2012**

*Wine Review Online*

“A massive, seductive wine that delivers layered complexity and power. Bursting aromas of black and red berries, black cherry and leaf lead to a palate of delights that features the nose elements plus bright fall spice, white pepper, baker's chocolate and dried herb notes. Add in the age-worthy structure and you've got a cellar trophy.” **97 Points**

-Rich Cook, July 2016

*Wine Enthusiast*

“Thick and rich in black sugarplum, this memorable Pritchard Hill-grown red is lovely and bold, velvety in texture with a softness to the firm, integrated tannin. Dried herb and spice provide memorable seasonings amidst a larger theater of dark chocolate, leather, clove and pepper. *Editors' Choice.*” **94 Points: Superb; A great achievement**

-Virginia Boone, October 2016

*Vinous*

“Even today, Chappellet's surroundings are pretty rustic, so it's hard to imagine what things were like back in the 1960s, when the winery was founded. Winemaking is mostly done in the new facility that is just a few years old, while the original barn-like building is mostly used for receiving guests. The sense of history is palpable, for **this is where some of the most epic Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons of the late 1960s and 1970s were made.** Within the context of modern-day Napa Valley, the Chappellet Cabernets remain powerful, structured and built for cellaring. My sense is that there is a return to a more classic approach after a period of venturing towards a more overt style.”

**2012 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

“Dark red cherries, plums, smoke, mocha, pine and tobacco are all laced together in the 2012 Cabernet Franc. Dark, powerful and intense, the 2012 shows the more brooding side of the vintage. Chappellet's Cabernet Franc is more of a wine of place than of variety, partly because it is best described as a Cabernet Franc-based blend. Firm tannins support the muscular finish, but there is more than enough fruit to provide balance. Savory herbs and floral overtone add the final layers of complexity.” **92 Points; Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Antonio Galloni, December 2014

*The Daily Meal*

**“A Dozen California Reds for Labor Day Drinking... from excellent producers”**

“These wines are not cheap, yet most are bargains in their own ways, as they represent **some of California's best wine producers** and mostly come from the excellent 2013 vintage.

**2012 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

Savory red fruits that need a little time to open (decant or swirl) with mild tannins and a touch of heat.”

-Roger Morris, *August 2016*

### ***The Tasting Panel***

“Dark, smooth and spicy with lush blueberry and balance; juicy and dense with plum, berries and depth; long and lush.” **91 Points: Outstanding**

-Anthony Dias Blue, *May-June 2016*

### ***Vivino***

#### **“2017 Wine Style Awards”**

“*Vivino*'s 2017 Wine Style Awards recognize the best wines on the planet in 147 categories, from Argentinian Malbec to Bordeaux Red to Californian Chardonnay and everything in between. This year's winning wines were determined by *Vivino*'s community of 21 million users and the millions of wine ratings they've submitted over the past year. For each wine style category, we selected the top ten best-rated wines with at least 50 ratings from the past year.”

#### **2012 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

-Karen MacNeil, *December 2016*

### ***Vinography***

“Very dark garnet in the glass, this wine smells of black plum and cherry. In the mouth, cherry and plum flavors mix with crushed nuts and a touch of green herbs. Excellent acidity keeps the fruit juicy and bright while suede-like tannins gently bump the palate. Long finish...”

#### **Around 9/10 Points**

-Alder Yarrow, *July 2017*

### ***FSR Magazine***

“America's West Coast is a gold mine when it comes to wine production. Multiple microclimates thrive within the same county, so marked by their unique terroir. From Oregon's Willamette Valley on down to California's Santa Barbara County, here is a sampling of the Pacific Coast's ability to produce many varietals.”

#### **2012 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

“A rare 100% Cabernet Franc varietal from California, this wine begins with a nose of cherry pie, followed by a bright and youthful palate, before effortlessly easing into a lingering finish, accented by subtle spices throughout.”

-Kristine Hansen, *February 2017*

### ***Honest Cooking***

#### **“34 Delicious Red Wines for End of Winter”**

#### **2012 Chappellet Cabernet Franc**

Splurge on this traditional Bordeaux blend with Cabernet Franc at its core. The wine is a beautifully concentrated expression of mountain grown Cabernet Franc, with aromas of ripe berry and dark chocolate. The taste is plush with flavors of earth and minerals underscoring the layers of blackberry, coffee and chocolate.”

-Kalle Bergman, *April 2017*