

Distinctive Cabernets

AN ALEXANDER VALLEY & KNIGHTS VALLEY COMPARISON



**RODNEY
STRONG**



ALEXANDER VALLEY

LOCATION & CLIMATE

- Alexander Valley is bordered by Mendocino County in the north and Chalk Hill in the south.
- The most fully planted wine region in Sonoma County, the southern part of Alexander Valley is closer to the Pacific Ocean and hence slightly cooler.
- The Russian River runs through Alexander Valley serving as a source for early morning fog that covers vineyards at lower elevations.
- Vineyard elevation: The highest elevation of Alexander's Crown top is at 350 feet, while the highest elevation at Rockaway is 750 feet.

SOILS

- The floor of Alexander Valley features gravelly soil that produces some of the county's richest Cabernet Sauvignon.
- The Alexander Valley's hillsides contain volcanic Franciscan Complex rock formations which help produce concentrated flavors in Zinfandel, Merlot, and Cabernet Sauvignon grapes.
- The Russian River provides the Alexander Valley with a wider range of soil types than Knights Valley. The soils in general are also much more fertile, mostly due to the higher clay content.

TASTE PROFILE

Notes of dried herbs, black pepper and minerality reflect the terroir of Alexander Valley. Lush with blackberries, dark plum and dark chocolate with soft, supple tannins as a result of the cooling coastal influence.

WHAT MAKES SONOMA COUNTY THE BEST WINE GROWING REGION?



LOCATION & CLIMATE

Mild Mediterranean climate year-round with long, warm, sunny days and cool nights with Pacific Ocean breezes and fog are ideal for wine



SOIL

19 unique viticultural areas across 1575 square miles with a total of 60,000 acres of grapes planted



QUALITY

This combination of Climate, Diversity & Soil or Terroir make Sonoma County a world-renowned region for producing high-quality world-class wines vintage after vintage



KNIGHTS VALLEY

LOCATION & CLIMATE

- Located in a narrow valley beside the Mayacamas mountain range dividing Sonoma and Napa counties, Knights Valley AVA abuts the Alexander Valley to the west and Chalk Hill to the south.
- Knights Valley is the easternmost Sonoma County AVA and the warmest, due to its protection from direct Pacific Ocean influence.
- This remote appellation borders one of Sonoma County's highest mountains, Mt. Saint Helena, the area's most influential geologic feature.
- Vineyard elevation: The bottom of Knights Valley is at 375 feet; the average elevation of our vineyards is 400-425 feet.

SOILS

- Knights Valley soils are heavily influenced by ancient, volcanic Mt. Saint Helena.
- Our vineyards feature well-drained soil with large amounts of gravel and sand, helping create well-established root systems while adding a desirable level of drought stress.
- Large, scattered surface rocks retain heat during the day and radiate heat into the evening.
- Knights Valley's unique soils include mineral-rich volcanic breccia & tuff, & Cortina & other well-drained soils, commonly found on the valley floor.

TASTE PROFILE

Fruiter, with firm tannic structure due to the warmer climate. Bursting with aromas of spicy dark plum and blackberries with a hint of blueberry, cassis and tobacco. The complex layers of cedar and milk chocolate are framed in rich, velvety tannins with a lingering finish.

