

# KETTLE VALLEY WINERY

(NARAMATA BENCH, SOUTHERN OKANAGAN VALLEY, BRITISH COLUMBIA)

[www.kettlevalleywinery.com](http://www.kettlevalleywinery.com)

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**Kettle Valley Winery** is a small farm-based winery located on the Naramata Bench, Okanagan, BC. Their focus is quality and by staying a small family owned and operated winery they believe that their passion will show through in their wines. Naramata is easily the premier growing region in British Columbia, with its moderate temperatures, abundant sunshine, and cooling breezes. The rolling hills and variable soil types result in growing sites with unique microclimates that can be matched to the right varieties by an experienced grape grower. No matter what style of wine you like, you will find it in Naramata. Drawing its name from the Kettle Valley Railway, which traveled through the Naramata area on the east side of Okanagan Lake, the winery opened to the public in 1996. Kettle Valley Winery is known for its dark, intense, and well-structured red wines, including Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and blends such as "Old Main Red". Chardonnay has been the main white wine produced, but in recent years Pinot Gris, Gewurztraminer, Semillon, and Sauvignon Blanc have also proved popular. They are all flavourful and aromatic, with a rich mouth feel.

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## Crest Cabernet 2018 (formerly Barber Cabernet)

CSPC# 729686

12x750ml

14.0% alc./vol.

### Grape Variety

100% Cabernet Sauvignon

### Winemakers

Bob Ferguson & Tim Watts

### Vineyards

The grapes for this wine come from the Crest vineyard in Naramata.

### Harvest

This harvest brought about our 27<sup>th</sup> vintage. We had a very smoky summer in the Okanagan as well as the Similkameen Valley, similar to what most of the province faced this summer with all of the forest fires. At times we could not see Okanagan Lake from the winery or tasting room. The fires came very close to our Great Northern Vineyard in Keremeos, as the fire came down the mountainside to the river which is adjacent to our property.

We did some preliminary test fermentations from grapes in vineyards closest to the fires and did not experience any negative smoke aromas or tastes in those ferments. The compounds that cause smoke taint are attached to sugar compounds in the grapes and are hard to detect simply by tasting the grapes. Smoky aromas are released in the wine as the sugar is fermented and converted to alcohol.

Harvest commenced on September 28 with the picking of Pinot Gris and Gewurztraminer. Zinfandel from our Great Northern Vineyard in Keremeos was the last pick on November 3.

The grapes were hand-picked on October 24, 2018, at approximately 24.2 brix.

### Vinification/

### Maturation

The wine has gone through a full malolactic fermentation and was aged in French oak for 19 months before bottling in 2019.

### Tasting Notes

This one-acre block was originally planted in 1994 but the vines were pulled out and the vineyard replanted in 2010. The vineyard is farmed using the Scott Henry training system, which is very labour intense, but results in consistent year to year ripening. The Crest Cabernet has flavours of black currant, black cherry, and hints of vanilla. Very full body, rich on the palate with smooth soft tannins.

### Serve with

Beef, lamb, poultry, and spicy food.

### Production

50 cases of 750ml bottles

