

# Lail Vineyards



## MOLE HILL CABERNET SAUVIGNON VINTAGE 2016, NAPA VALLEY

### WINEMAKER NOTES

“Vintage 2016 was the last of a five-year drought in Napa Valley, so there was worry that the vineyards would be tired and thus struggle to produce fully ripe fruit. That certainly turned out not to be true. The 2016 wines are replete with intense aromas and immense flavors. With the 2016 Mole Hill Cabernet Sauvignon, Howell Mountain shines forth with black fruits, driving acidity, complex tannins, and great energy and vibrancy. It’s all here: blackberry compote, boysenberry jam, black raspberry preserves, and dark chocolate sweetness. Clearly one of the very best Mole Hill bottlings ever, it reflects the fabulous 2016 vintage all the way through.”

—*Philippe Melka, Winemaker*

### MOLE HILL IS THE CROWN JEWEL OF LAIL VINEYARDS

It is an ultra-luxury wine bordering on decadent with its showcase of Howell Mountain seductive aromatics, velvety palate of fascinating complexity and a lingering finish which remains when you set down your glass. Production is small and demand is big. Produced only from the best growing seasons, this serious wine also has a sense of humor. Each year the path of the mole changes on the label designating a new vintage for your collection.

PARTNERS | Robin Daniel Lail, Erin Lail, Shannon Lail

VARIETAL | 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

VINEYARD | Mole Hill Vineyard

BARREL REGIMEN | 20 months in French oak; 100% new

WINEMAKER | Philippe Melka

PRODUCTION | 71 cases

### MOLE HILL STORY

Mole Hill was named in homage to a wine created by Robin’s father, famous vintner John Daniel, Jr.

The story goes that when Daniel’s great friend, Louis Martini, Sr., made a wine in the 1940s, the irony of him labeling it Mountain Red was not lost on Daniel because Martini’s wine was from a rolling hillside vineyard versus the precipitous mountain vineyards of Europe. A brilliant man with a celebrated sense of humor and a particular love of puns, Daniel responded with Inglenook Mole Hill Red, whose whimsical label featured a very cute mole with a magnifying glass checking a small pile of dirt. The overtly flowery back label concluded with “...and this is a wine you will truly GO FER!”

In 1996, the Lail family acquired a special vineyard site high atop Howell Mountain, and named it Mole Hill. The vineyard’s west-facing gentle slope has shallow soils with rocks that rise to the surface like cream in coffee, creating a spartan home for the vines and generating a concentration of flavors in the grapes. These thin, rocky and dry soil conditions create Cabernet Sauvignon with firm structure, incredible varietal intensity, and excellent aging properties.

We now make a Mole Hill out of a mountain!