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HOUYI VINEYARD 2021 VINTAGE

Houyi Vineyard is Realm's Estate vineyard on Pritchard Hill. Tucked away on the eastern side of Napa Valley, Pritchard Hill is home to some of the best-known wine names in the world. At nearly 1,300 feet, our 22-acre vineyard sits above the fog line, its vines soaking in the morning sun. The vineyard is full of dense, volcanic rock. These unique soils provide an environment for the vines to produce concentrated fruit.

Realm has produced a Single Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon from Houyi Vineyard since 2013. After cherishing this site for nearly a decade, we had the good fortune of acquiring the vineyard from the Chang family in 2022. The 2021 is the last vintage before it officially becomes an Estate wine in our portfolio, which gives us access to the entire vineyard instead of a select number of Cabernet Sauvignon blocks. Members can expect this wine to include small components of Merlot and Cabernet Franc in the future.

Blend: Napa Valley AVA (Pritchard Hill). 100% Cabernet Sauvignon.

Vineyard: Houyi Vineyard

Wine Profile: This wine is rich and complex yet soft and elegant. It is approachable in a way that runs counter to many mountain wines. A paradox...

THE STORY BEHIND HOUYI

The one thing you immediately notice upon visiting Houyi Vineyard is how much rock there is to contend with. Three feet under the topsoil is a bed of solid rock, and planting a vineyard on this site is not for the faint of heart.

When photographer Matt Morris visited Houyi, he was struck not only by the rock but by the machinery used for its excavation. "I call it the bucket graveyard," he says of the pile of rock and backhoe parts pictured on our Houyi Vineyard label. "It shows just how much effort goes into growing grapes here." Matt used a Polaroid 180 Land Camera for his shot, one of those folding cameras from the 1960s that he found on eBay.

