

VANESSA

V I N E Y A R D

Carved from stone, fuelled by sun, a vineyard like no other.

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2017 Merlot



Merlot 100%

Merlot Clone 181 Bordeaux, France

Alcohol 15.0%
Residual Sugar 0.6 g/L
Total Acidity 6.83 g/L
pH 3.5
Brix 31
Cases Produced 88
Released 2022
SKU 052189

VANESSA
VINEYARD

Flavour Profile

Our Merlot opens with a ripe rich nose of black cherry, dried blueberry, thyme, and dried sage. The full-bodied palate is rich with chocolate, cherry, plum, and sage followed by silky tannins on the finish.

Growing Conditions

The 2017 growing season in the Similkameen Valley was far from normal, but the end result was well worth waiting for. Spring came late and cool, slowing fruit development but the ensuing summer warmth compensated for it. A near record drought in late July and August reduced crop size and resulted in improved grape quality. Fall ripening went well and on schedule. For the 2017 growing season, the total heat to the vines at Vanessa was 1,757 Growing Degree Days which was above any of the vineyards measured in the neighbouring Okanagan. This produced rich, ripe, generous red wines. Ripening continued at a medium speed allowing the fruit flavours to fully develop.

Winemaking

Crafted from only 100% estate grown and hand-picked fruit. The grapes were destemmed and underwent a gentle crush before small-batch fermentation and hand punch down to maximize flavour and extraction. This cuvée is almost entirely comprised of free run juice with only a small quantity of pressed juice added to balance the tannins. Fermented and barrel aged for 20 months in mainly new and one-year-old American and French oak barrels that were medium-plus toast. Beautiful integration of the soil minerality gives the wine exceptional character and quality. Only 3 barrels produced.