

VANESSA

V I N E Y A R D

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

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2018 Merlot



Merlot 100%

Merlot Clone 181 Bordeaux, France

Alcohol 15.8%
Residual Sugar 0.3 g/L
Total Acidity 6.1 g/L
pH 3.63
Brix 25
Cases Produced 125
Released 2021
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 light smoke and silky tannins on the finish.

Growing Conditions

A long, moderate growing season started on schedule, yet with warmer than average spring temperatures. Cooler summer temperatures led into particularly warm autumn days with cool evenings. The results: an early bud break, increased crop sizes and slow ripening that allowed the fruit to fully mature with exciting flavour development for the reds in this vintage. Harvest began right on time, with our harvest for reds finishing in early November. Total heat units for 2018 at Vanessa were recorded at 1730.5 Growing Degree Days, similar to the previous year. The prolonged and mild 2018 growing season gives this vintage unique character and exceptional quality.

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 6 barrels produced.