

2018 Merlot

Vineyard: Robert Mueller Vineyard; Los Carneros

Appellation: Los Carneros (Napa Valley)

Winemaker: Robert A. Mueller

Harvest Date: Hand harvested on October 20th -25th, 2018

Bottling Date: August 9th, 2021

Production: 306 Cases

Blend: 96% Merlot, 3.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 0.5% Cabernet Franc

Alcohol: 14.9% Filtration: None

Cooperage: 100% French Oak; new, used and neutral

100% Estate Grown, Produced, and Bottled

Notes from Harvest:

February saw abundant rains. Bud break and flowering occurred a bit late, but under ideal weather conditions, creating plentiful and even fruit set. Summer was virtually uninterrupted by major heat spikes. The relatively mild temperatures followed by extended fall sunshine and moderate heat created near-ideal conditions for fruit to accumulate flavor complexity with gradual increases in sugar levels.

Tasting Notes:

Aromas of dried herbs, ripe black cherry, plum, and raspberry with undercurrents of vanilla, cocoa powder, wet stone and black pepper. On the palate, it has savory flavors of ripe juicy fruit with a firm tannin structure. This wine will continue to age well over the next 20 years.

Suggested Food Pairings:

Soprassata and Manchego ~ Pan-Seared Pork Chops ~ Beef Stew

