

2018 DCV6 ESTATE CABERNET FRANC – DRY CREEK VALLEY



HISTORY

Cabernet Franc may have origins entrenched in Bordeaux, but it has a home here in California's Dry Creek Valley as well. We find that this delicious varietal adds a layer of finesse and a peppery perfume as a blending component for our Meritage and The Mariner wines, but is also outstanding all on its own. The Cabernet Franc we grow on our estate DCV6 property stands out vintage after vintage, so we set aside a few barrels as a special wine produced exclusively for our wine club members.

GROWING SEASON

Following a long growing season characterized by cooler than normal temperatures throughout the spring and summer, the 2018 harvest started 5–8 days later than the past several years. The milder temperatures afforded the luxury of a longer hang time for the grapes, allowing them to fully mature while retaining a high level of acidity. Overall, the harvest was plentiful with some vineyards producing higher than average quantities. The season ended with the ideal combination of warm days and cooler nights which enabled the high quality of grapes to thrive while developing complexity and nuance.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

This voluptuous Cabernet Franc displays intriguing aromatics of blackberry, black cherry and cranberry. Additional airing reveals nuances of roasted almond, green peppercorn and fine leather. The palate is full-bodied and rich with luscious flavors of black currant, boysenberry and blueberry complimented by savory notes of cumin, coriander, white pepper and mocha. A finish of fine tannins rounds out each indulgent sip.

90 Points
Connoisseurs' Guide to
California Wine

RELEASE DATE	October 2021
BLEND	98% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec
APPELLATION	Dry Creek Valley
HARVEST DATE	October 12, 2018
ALCOHOL	14.1%
FERMENTATION	12 days in fermenters at an average of 82–88°F; pumped over twice daily.
BARREL AGING	19 months in French and Hungarian oak; 34% new oak
BRX	Average 25.2
PH	3.38
TA	6.7 g/L
SOILS	Sandy loam with river rock
VINE AGE	8 years
YIELDS	3–4 tons per acre

