



LANCASTER
Estate

WINEMAKER'S
NOTES



BOTTLED
FEBRUARY 2021

LANCASTER ESTATE 2018 SOPHIA'S HILLSIDE CUVÉE

OUR THOUGHTS...

Our 2018 Sophia's Hillside Cuvée is composed of our young hillside blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon. The fruit from these estate vineyard blocks meld together to create a perfectly balanced, intense wine. It has the fruit-forward youthfulness and freshness of the young Cabernet Sauvignon that is softened and balanced by the French oak aging. Inviting aromas of black cherry, blueberry and plum entice your senses. The palate displays bright fruit flavors with hints of dark cocoa and subtle savory undertones. Lush, velvety tannins linger on the finish and make this a wine that will age well for years to come.

VINTAGE AND WINEMAKING NOTES:

The Alexander Valley experienced another ideal growing season in 2018. The long season provided moderate temperatures for the grapes to ripen at the optimal speed. The result is an incredible vintage marked by clean, outstanding fruit characteristics with balanced acidity and sugar levels.

COOPERAGE:

This wine was aged sur lie for 18 months in 100% French oak from the Nevers and Allier forests in central France. We chose barrels from several coopers including Taransaud, Demptos, Saury and Bel Air. 30% of the barrels were new and all were coopered using a combination of Medium Plus, Medium Long and Heavy toast levels to provide better integration and balance.

COMPOSITION & ANALYSIS:

Harvest Dates: September 24 – November 15, 2018

Varietals: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Titrateable Acidity: 5.3 g/L

pH: 3.63

Alcohol: 14.5%



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JANUARY 2020

LANCASTER ESTATE 2017 CABERNET SAUVIGNON 1.5L

OUR THOUGHTS...

The 2017 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon captures the pure expression of our unique terroir at Lancaster Estate. It is a blend of all five of the red Bordeaux varietals we have planted on our volcanic hillside vineyards. Dark, rich fruit presents aromas of wild game on the nose. On the palate there are hints of blackberry compote and dark stone fruit flavors. An incredible display of the rich and concentrated flavors that come from our estate vineyards, this wine glides across the palate for a long, decadent finish. This wine should be decanted when young, and will only gain in complexity for the next 15-20 years.

VINTAGE AND WINEMAKING NOTES:

The 2017 growing season began with sufficient rainfall to reinvigorate the vines. A cool spring with moderate temperatures set the stage for a prime bud break. Some heat spikes in the late summer propelled harvest which occurred in mid-September allowing us to bring in the fruit at optimal maturity. The wines from this vintage have great uniformity, concentration and outstanding balance.

COOPERAGE:

The 2017 was aged 24 months in 100% French oak. We chose barrels from several coopers including Darnajou, Taransaud, Demptos, Ermitage, Saury, Bel Air and Sylvain. 60% of the barrels were new and all were coopered using a combination of Medium, Medium Plus, Medium Long, and Heavy toast levels to provide optimal integration and balance.

COMPOSITION & ANALYSIS:

Harvest Dates: September 8 – October 27, 2017

Varietals: 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Malbec,

4% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot

Titrateable Acidity: 6.4 g/L

pH: 3.52

Alcohol: 14.5%

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