



2018 MOSCATO

NAPA VALLEY

Kuleto is one of the most complex and diverse wine producing properties in the world. Located in the volcanic mountains of eastern Napa our estate features 781 total acres and 82.9 acres of vines perched along ridges and clinging to steep hillsides. Our soils, exposures, elevation changes and sub-climates are so complex that we've delineated our property into more than 100 micro-blocks. Each of these tiny plots is treated as an individual vineyard with varieties, clones, rootstocks, density, trellising and farming methods tailored specifically to the site.

For winemaker Giovanni Verdejo, there is a mutual understanding that all but a small percentage of the winemaker's work is done in the vineyard. Keeping the vineyard's serpentine twists and exposures in mind, the best-suited varieties for each block have been selected. Working with the land, not against it, the individually terraced lots are not oriented to one central direction, but instead are planted to maximize the benefits of their natural location.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2018 growing season was one of the mildest and smoothest in recent memory. Mild spring weather led to good fruit set in most varieties and moderate weather throughout the year made for ideal growing conditions. There were no major heat spikes, which gave us longer hang-time and great ripening on the vine. While a fairly long harvest, the 2018 crop delivered fruit with complex flavors and was of excellent quality.

Our dry Moscato is made with several pleasurable things in mind, one of them being eating oysters on the half-shell, so, for our Moscato, we choose to focus on the blossom and sweet herbal components of the Muscat grape rather than that of cloying perfume. We also want to give it a bit of a grip in the mouth. We achieve this by picking at a fairly low sugar and crushing the fruit back onto the stems to soak for several hours before pressing. (Muscat is a very pulpy grape, and the stems provide channels for the juice to migrate through inside the press cake). After a gentle pressing, we settle it cold overnight and rack it to old 500L barrels to ferment. Our 2018 Moscato captures the essence of the grape spectacularly! There's a reason bees love to hang around when we crush this variety, because aromas of honeysuckle and lemon flowers fill the air. Citrus flavors such as freshly peeled lemon rind meld together with the bright acidity making this a perfect wine to enjoy on a hot summer day. The mouth is simultaneously fresh and pungent and finishes clean and bright. This is a wine whose flavors linger long beyond the texture.

TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Composition 100% Estate Moscato
100% Skin and stem contact prior to pressing
Vineyard Kuleto Estate, 1100 - 1250 feet elevation | Alcohol 13.5%
Aging 18 months in old French 500L puncheons | pH 3.74 | TA 6.5 g/l
Cases Produced 142 (750 ml)