

# Kuleto

E S T A T E

## 2019 MERLOT

### 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 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 dozens of 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 varietals 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

2019 was a near perfect growing season. An early and warm summer pushed sugars into gear, while a cooler fall with a few heat spikes helped to achieve even ripening. The 2019 crop produced fruit with intense flavors while staying true to each varietal's distinctive characteristics.

Our 2019 Merlot displays a medium-ruby color in the glass. Pungent aromas of stone fruits, licorice, toasted oak, and black pepper are complimented with a hint of dried savory herbs. The palate is led by fruitful notes of black cherry and red raspberry, accompanied with soft tannins and an elegant finish.

#### TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Composition: 100% Merlot

Aging: 21 months in 50% new Hungarian and French oak barrels

Alcohol: 14.6% | pH: 3.54 | TA: 6.20 g/L | Cases Produced: 209