## 2019 MALBEC 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 have 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 Giovani 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.

We prize our estate Malbec for its ability to come to full flavor maturity on the vine without the high sugars and subsequent high alcohols often associated with mountain-top reds in the Napa Valley. It is all about exotic aromas and freshness on the palate. Our 2019 Malbec displays a rich red-purple color. Fragrant aromas of raspberry and plum fruits are complemented by hints of clove, tobacco, and chocolate. This is a medium bodied wine with soft tannins, balanced acidity, and notes of sweet oak on the palate.

## TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Composition: 100% Malbec Aging: 26 months in 40% new Hungarian, American, and French oak puncheons Alcohol: 14% | pH: 3.73 | TA: 5.80 g/L | Cases Produced: 98