

ALMACERRO

2018

ESTATE VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

BLEND	95% Cabernet Sauvignon 4% Cabernet Franc 1% Merlot
ALCOHOL	14.5%
FERMENTATION	90% Stainless Steel Tank 10% French Oak Puncheons
HARVEST DATES	Sept 12th through Oct 6th 2018
OAK MATURATION	80% New Oak 22-24 months in oak
BOTTLED	Sept 22nd, 2020

TASTING NOTES

The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon is dark and brooding, earthy and layered. Notes of petrichor, cedar box, dusty savory herbs and mountain sage brush exude from the glass. Unmistakably Howell Mountain, its robust and muscular framework is woven delicately with luscious, velvety tannins to reveal a wine that is both powerful and lifted. Beneath these savory layers are beautifully nuanced aromas of cassis, juicy ripe blackberries and mulberries with perfumy notes of fresh rose petals and lavender that provide yet another level of intrigue and depth to the wine. As the tannins wind their way across the palate, we are left with the impression of total balance and harmony, a wine that is both stoic and poised.

VINTAGE NOTES

A glorious vintage, 2018 is one of the most idyllic in recent Napa history. The winter began with lower than usual rains and was slow to release its cold grasp on the mountain, pushing budbreak to the middle of April and setting the trend for an overall cooler growing season. These mild temperatures induced slow maturation of the grapevines and led to balanced canopy growth. Spring brought plentiful and well-timed rainfall giving the vines ample access to soil nutrients. Bloom in June was heralded with perfectly mild conditions, creating a generous fruit set of beautifully full clusters. Veraison soon followed in the middle of August, the timing of which, coupled with another cool spell, allowed for the brix to develop slowly and in unison with the phenolics and flavors of the berries. A bountiful harvest across the valley, the Almacerro estate saw the first pick on September 12th with the old vine Merlot and continued through October 6th with the last pick of Cabernet Sauvignon.

