



2018 PROPRIETARY RED NAPA VALLEY

HARVESTED		September 28 - October 30, 2018
VINEYARDS		Stagecoach, Upper Range, Vangone, Rancho Chimiles, Pahlmeyer Estate
BOTTLED		June 25, 2020
COMPOSITION		88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc
ALCOHOL		15.2%
RELEASE DATE		September 2021
WINEMAKER		Vinted by Jennifer Williams, blended by Katie Vogt

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2018 growing season started with cool conditions punctuated by periodic cold weather snaps, prolonging bloom time and delaying veraison. Summer brought warm, steady temperatures that allowed grapes to mature and ripen evenly with striking complexity. Grapes were hand-harvested at peak ripeness, providing high-quality, exceptionally concentrated and beautifully balanced fruit.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Proprietary Red is a masterful blend of Bordeaux varieties, each harvested and vinified separately in dozens of individual lots. In vintage 2018, the majority of the blend was sourced from the iconic Stagecoach Vineyard as well as Upper Range Vineyard, an exciting new addition to our Pahlmeyer vineyard portfolio. Clusters were gravity-fed onto a sorting table and carefully sorted by hand. After the fruit was gently destemmed, it was passed through an optical sorter to ensure that only perfect, gorgeous berries made it into the fermenter. Our top lots were fermented in five-ton oak casks for up to 27 days on the grape skins. At the drain and press stage, free run was collected overnight and the skins were gently pressed via basket press. Each lot was aged and evaluated separately at blending. The wine was aged in 95% new, heavy toast French oak barrels for 18 months.

TASTING NOTES

Exquisitely cellar-worthy, our 2018 Proprietary Red Napa Valley will reward patience over the next decade or more. This Cabernet Sauvignon-dominant blend opens with aromas of wild blackberry, cocoa and supple leather. Deep and beautifully structured, with elegant, lengthy tannins matched by ideal balance. Dark and opaque, the concentrated, complex palate brings generous notes of forest berries and black currant, layered with hints of freshly turned earth, aromatic herbs and dark spices, evolving into a long, energetic finish.

REVIEWS

“Blackberries and wild berries on the nose with hints of incense and ink, following through to a full body with super integrated tannins and a long, linear finish. It’s structured, yet so polished and integrated, the tannins spreading beautifully across the palate. Caressing, like silk. This has a higher percentage of Stagecoach Vineyard. Drinkable now, but better in 2024 and onwards.” 98 points, James Suckling, June, 2021