

# MERRYVALE

## VINEYARDS

### 2018 Cabernet Franc

### Napa Valley



#### Winemaking

We are privileged to work with some of the best Cabernet Franc fruit in the Napa Valley, from vineyards including our Profile Estate, Stanton and several Premium Properties. Our goal is to make a Cabernet Franc that is on par with the best Cabernet Sauvignons made here. All of the fruit is hand harvested at night. Native fermentation in small lots follows a 5-day cold soak; we do two pumpovers a day until dry and then drain to 100% French oak barrels, 50% of which are new. This wine was bottled without fining or filtration.

#### Vintage

2018 was a remarkable vintage — the long growing season allowed the grapes to achieve 2018 was a remarkable vintage—the long growing season allowed the grapes to achieve full phenolic maturity, while the lack of extreme weather created the ideal conditions for harvesting at peak ripeness. Abundant rains early in the year were followed by lots of filtered light in spring and early summer. Both bud break and flowering occurred a bit late, but under ideal weather conditions, creating plentiful and even fruit set. Summer brought generous sun during the day and cooler marine influences. The relatively mild summer followed by extended fall sunshine and moderate heat created near-ideal conditions.

#### Tasting Notes

An elegantly muscular expression of Cabernet Franc. Bright forward aromas of dark cherries, baking spices, and sage tease the nose and draw you in. On the palate the wine is lusciously textured – rich and smooth, yet powerfully structured with precise tannins and a long finish. The flavors evolve in the mouth and the glass, creating a unique experience that highlights the minerality and freshness. Bold and flavorful now, this wine will only increase in elegance over the next 10+ years. A refined, exceptional expression of New World Cabernet Franc, that will age beautifully for 10+ years.

Appellation:	Napa Valley
Blend:	95% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec, 1% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot
Vineyards:	Stanton, Sugarloaf, Stagecoach, Profile Estate, Truchard, Farella
Cooperage:	50% new French oak barrels for 20 months
Alc:	14.5%
PH:	3.65
TA:	5.5 g/L

EST. 1983

