

MERRYVALE

VINEYARDS

2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Saint Helena

Winemaking

Merryvale's Profile Estate Vineyard lies on an eastern ridge overlooking the Napa Valley at almost 1,000 feet of elevation. Planted in 1997, this vineyard consistently delivers grapes that stand out for their plush fruit character, complexity and silky tannins. The fruit was harvested at night in small picking lugs, then destemmed and double sorted at the winery. Each tank was gravity filled and the fruit was cold soaked for 5 days. Native yeast fermentation began after that and reached peak temperatures of 90°F. Pump-overs were done twice a day for a total maceration time between 15 to 21 days. The wines were then pressed and barreled down where malolactic fermentation occurred. We aged the wine for 21 months in 75% new French oak barrels. The wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

Vintage

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

Enticing aromas of dark chocolate, geranium, and bramble fruits. The initial impression is of ripe dark fruits, led by blackcurrants and plums, offering a deep, velvety sweetness. Silky smooth tannins caress the palate, supporting the wine's full-bodied nature. Flavors of blackberries, sandalwood, and chocolate unfold, painting a picture of concentrated fruit expression. The finish is long, complex, and evolving— a truly pleasurable wine that is both opulent and disciplined. Enjoy now and over the next 10+ years.

Appellation:	Saint Helena, Napa Valley
Blend:	98% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Petit Verdot
Vineyard:	Profile Estate Vineyard
Cooperage:	21 months in French oak barrels, 75% new oak barrels
Alc:	14.5%
PH:	3.91
TA:	5.7 g/L



EST. 1983

