

BLUE ROCK

2018 Best Barrels Cabernet Franc Blue Rock Vineyard, Alexander Valley



Vineyard

Our 2018 Best Barrels Cabernet Franc showcases the varietal beautifully at a full 95% Cabernet Franc, rounded out by just a 3% splash of Merlot and a 2% addition of Cabernet Sauvignon, all from the best blocks at our Blue Rock Estate Vineyard in Alexander Valley.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

2018 was a stellar vintage that treated our older Cabernet Franc vines particularly well. A pristine medium-ruby color, the nose offers a beautiful example of Cab Franc's savory, earthy dried herbs, roasted red pepper and graphite on top of bright red fruits. The palate reveals a medium-full body that dances between all the spicy aromas and fresh strawberry and red raspberry, celebrating California's famous fruit all deftly held by lively acidity and gentle tannins. A gorgeous California example of true Cabernet Franc not found very often!

Food Affinities

Cabernet Franc is a bit more versatile in its food pairing than its brooding cousin Cabernet Sauvignon. The combination of acidity and just the right amount of tannin allow a broad range of wonderful complements such as roast chicken, duck, sausage, grilled vegetables and even smoky barbecue or tomato-based red sauces.

Ageability

This wonderfully balanced and distinctive red should enter its prime drinking window somewhere in late 2021, then cellar phenomenally well for another 15 years.

Technical Data

95% Cabernet Franc
03% Merlot
02% Cabernet Sauvignon
14.5% new French oak
14.6% Alc.
Cases Produced: 605
Bottled: August 2020
Released: April 2021

THE **tastingpanel**
MAGAZINE

94^{pts}

*2016 Vintage



i-winereview.com

93^{pts}

*2016 Vintage