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BOUCHAINE

N A P A V A L L E Y ♦ C A R N E R O S

2019 Hyde Vineyard Merlot



Vineyard

The Hyde family is known for their expertise in growing cool-climate grape varieties in the Carneros region of the Napa Valley. They originally planted Hyde Vineyard in the 1970s. Their Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays are well known around the world, and their Merlot isn't one to let those alone share the spotlight. This Merlot is meticulously farmed, which gives the Bouchaine winemaking team the amazing opportunity to translate that incredible terroir into the bottle.

Growing Season

The 2019 growing season will be remembered as a "Goldilocks" vintage. Not too cold, not too hot . . . but just right. Late rains in May had growers biting their nails as these storms can cause damage to vines that are flowering, leading to reduced crop. However, sunshine won that battle and the rains disappeared giving way to a long, consistent growing season throughout the summer. No major heat events appeared during harvest time allowing for beautiful ripening at an even pace. Juuuust right.

Vinification

All fruit is hand harvested at night, preserving berry integrity. After a 7-day cold soak, fruit is fermented with native yeast in an open top tank. Post-fermentation, the wine is drawn off and the must placed into a basket press for gentle pressing. The wine completes malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels and puncheons and is aged on the lees for 16 months before bottling.

Tasting Notes

Historians look to the past, learn from our mistakes, and use that knowledge to make our future brighter. By that reasoning, Larry Hyde is a true historian of Carneros. Forty years of grape growing in a single region of Napa will teach you a thing or two, and we have the good fortune of seeing that decades-long quest represented in our Hyde Vineyard Merlot from a block planted in 1986. This isn't just a cool-climate old vine Merlot, full of both grace and boldness. This is a history lesson in a bottle, a master class given by the King of Carneros. Open a bottle and make your future brighter!

Appellation

Napa Valley, Carneros

Vineyard

Hyde Vineyard

Aging

17 months

Harvest Date

October 22, 2019

Bottling Date

April 1, 2021

Maturation

46% new French oak

PH

3.5

TA

6.0 g/L

RS

0 g/L

Alcohol

14.3%

Production

290 cases (750ml)

Suggested Retail

\$195

1075 BUCHLI STATION ROAD, NAPA, CA 94559 | 800.654.WINE | 707.252.9065 | BOUCHAINE.COM

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