



2018 WISDOM OF WISE CAN



The 2018 Wisdom of Wise (a.k.a. "WOW") is a crowd-pleasing, rich & flavorful red wine blend. Black cherry, berry, spice, vanilla & chocolate flavors lead to a silky-smooth finish. The 2018 blend is a classic Bordeaux style blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Malbec, Cabernet Franc & Petit Verdot. Fruit notes of cherry, blackberry, pomegranate & strawberry are complemented by spice complexities of clove, cinnamon, vanilla, black pepper, and tea leaves, with hints of chocolate & coffee.

WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES:

"The art of blending is the purest art in winemaking. Much of winemaking is about the vineyard's terroir, expressing the personality of the grape, the soil, the climate and the weather of the season, and the vagaries of the vintage. But to make a blend the Winemaker must take all of these elements and, like a chef, fuse their unique elements into a cohesive whole, and like a meal it should express the individual elements of each ingredient while becoming something new and greater. Wisdom of Wise is a blend which combines the best aspects of each variety. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc & Petit Verdot carry the weight and deliver dark fruit, dark spice, and a rich mouthfeel, while the Merlot and Malbec boost the bright fruit flavors and round out the smooth finish. The overall blend is incredibly complex and pleasing. The grapes for this blend are cold soaked and fermented with whole berries at cold temperatures, to achieve a partial carbonic maceration and maximize fruit-forward aromatic expression. These techniques result in a vibrant fruit profile and lighter tannins. After fermentation, the wines are left on the skins for an extended maceration to ensure full extraction of flavor and soft tannins from the skins before pressing and being transferred to oak on 100% full lees. This mix of techniques allows the maximum expression of fruit, spice, and lees aromas to produce an intense wine displaying the best qualities of these grapes and vineyards. This wine was aged in oak barrels, 30% new, a mixture of French and American oak, for 9 months, to balance and elevate the wines. The wine was aged on the yeast lees and stirred (batonage) monthly to extract a rich mouthfeel.

---Owner & Winemaker Dr. Grover Lee & Winemaker Steven Eriksen

Varietals

Cabernet Sauvignon (28%), Malbec (26%), Merlot (23%), Cabernet Franc (13%), Petit Verdot (12%)

Apellation

Malbec & Cabernet Franc: Silvaspoons Vineyard, Alta Mesa, Lodi; Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot: Estate Fruit from our Sierra Foothills Vineyards.

Climate

Continental, warm dry days and cool nights with 40°F temperature shifts

Exposure

Malbec & Cabernet Franc: Flat; Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot: hillsides

Trellis

Malbec & Cabernet Franc: GDC; Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon: VSP

Destemming, Fermentation, & Pressing

Most typically, with variations to suit each variety: Destemmed, 2 day cold soak with whole berries & partial carbonic maceration and natural yeast present, 7 day fermentation with punch downs & pumpovers, 5 day extended maceration. Pressed direct to barrels on full lees and aged 9 months before blending, then married in tank for 1 month before canning.

Soil

All: sandy loam, with a decomposed granite geological influence in the foothills vineyards

Picked (sugar level)

Variable, on average 23.5 Brix

Alcohol

13.8%

Acidity

6.5 g/L total acidity & 3.51 pH

Aging

30% new French & Minnesota oak, 70% neutral oak for 9 months on full sur lies contact with monthly stirring.

Final Production

~1000 4-packs