

ANVIL

by Forgeron

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A selection of the best from every vintage for enthusiasts who want to explore the purity of Washington State wine.

2018 Cabernet Sauvignon

Dionysus Vineyard, Columbia Valley

PROFILE

Old vines produce this supple and sensual Cabernet. Classic in its elegance, this wine is approachable now but built to age. Our Cabernet Sauvignon is always lush, rich and complex. While sometimes a blend, often times a single varietal, it is always the optimal expression of that vintage and always from the most sought-after and reputable vineyards in Washington State.

DIONYSUS VINEYARD

Located on a southwest facing slope in Pasco, Washington that overlooks the Columbia River. Planted in 1988, Dionysus has some of the oldest vines in Washington State. These old vines benefit from an established root system, regulating vigor and allowing the vines to consistently produce rich, dense and generous grapes. Our rows follow the slope towards the southwest, almost 45 degrees off due north, which allows for nearly perfect sun exposure while minimizing over-ripening. As the sun lowers down in the evenings, both sides of the canopy receive evening sun, lending incredible evenness and consistency to the fruit.

Old vine Cabernet Sauvignon has become the remarkable flagship varietal of the Dionysus Vineyard. In 2008, we started sourcing Cabernet Sauvignon grapes from Block 11 and later experimented with Petit Verdot from Block 13 which adds generous flavors and great texture. We like to do an extended maceration post-fermentation for a total time on skins up to 45 days. During maceration, we fully extract these generous grapes for depth and full flavors.

TASTING NOTES

Cabernet Sauvignon from Dionysus Vineyard is exceptional. The 2018 vintage displays an abundance of fruit – boy, oh, boysenberry, is there fruit – but the notes of cigar box, tar, molasses and dark chocolate dominate the initial impression, followed by all of everything that qualifies as a berry (in particular, the blue ones). As you savor, you'll notice a sprinkling of both fresh and dried herbs on the mid-palate and a hint of sunshine on the finish (yuzu, maybe?) with persistent tannin presence throughout. Put a chill on this and enjoy it right now, or put it in a dark hole for a decade and marvel at how it evolves...because it will do so majestically.

VINTAGE NOTES

The summer of 2018 was one of the hottest years on record throughout the eastern side of Washington. We experienced several weeks of 95-degree and higher temperatures; at long last, a cooling trend arrived in August. The stretch of hot weather allowed an extended hang-time, resulting in appealing, complex flavor. This vintage turned out to be truly remarkable, producing lots with bright, fresh notes and seemingly innate balance.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietal: 88% Cabernet Sauvignon,
12% Petit Verdot
Vineyard: Dionysus
Appellation: Columbia Valley
pH: 3.86 | TA: 6.1g/L | Alcohol: 14.8%

Cooperage: 28 months aging in 26% new
French oak, 73% neutral French oak
Bottled Date: March 2020
Production: 345
UPC: 833959001343

