

FRANK FAMILY VINEYARDS

2018 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

TASTING NOTES

Frank Family's first vintage of this wine in nearly two decades, this opens with fresh plums that intertwine with coffee and cedar. An effortless mix of blackberries and baking spice, the Merlot is complex and elegant, offering smooth layers of pomegranate and a depth of dark chocolate that carries through the persistent finish.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Frank Family grows several acres of Merlot on our Rutherford properties, which we often blend with our Cabernet Sauvignons to add softness and a more rounded mouthfeel. But Merlot is worthy to stand on its own. This wine has so much elegant and structured potential that it can go head-to-head with many Napa Valley Cabernets.

SOURCING

Sourced from Frank Family's Benjamin Vineyard in Rutherford as well as several of our closest neighbors and long-term grape growers, Delouise, Round Pond Estate, and Sunseri Vineyards located in Oak Knoll, Rutherford, and Chiles Valley respectively.

AGING

18 months in 33% new French oak barrels, 67% once- and twice-filled French oak barrels.

98 POINTS

Sunset Magazine, October 2021



VARIETAL COMPOSITION:

85% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Sauvignon,
3% Cabernet Franc

HARVEST DATES:

September 21–October 19, 2018

BOTTLED:

May 2020

ACID:

0.60 g/100 ml

pH:

3.55

ALCOHOL:

14.5%