

vilafonté

Series C 2019

Striking & Resolute

Series C 2019 displays an intense ruby-purple colour and a vibrant, crimson rim. Dense on opening, this blend offers seductively fragrant layers of blackberry, cassis and baked plum, perfectly offset by a savoury, hoisin sauce note. Opulent floral notes; violet and lilac harmoniously blend to fresh-crushed juniper berry, pencil shavings, nuanced dark chocolate and sweet, warm nutmeg. The palate reveals a plush, expansive entry, with vivid continuity. Fine-grained tannins throughout embody a cashmere embrace, building on the fine and assertive structure. Sumptuous black berry fruits are expressive and well-defined, underpinned by a mouth-watering core with effortlessly long finish. While alluring in its youth, the 2019 Series C promises a decade or more of cellaring to realise its full potential.

The Vintage

A tale of two seasons – give and take. In the shadow of persistent drought conditions, rains remained elusive in the post-harvest period of 2018. There was an upswing in rainfall toward the end of winter, continuing into spring and early summer. However, weather fluctuations in the spring contributed to an uneven bud-break and berry set. Conditions improved at the onset of summer with a warmer November, conducive to vineyard growth. Some variability in ripening caused by the irregular springtime conditions were remedied by in-bunch sorting after véraison to maintain quality. Harvest timing was, as always, at the beginning on February, continuing with a measured pace and fair weather through to the end. Mother Nature rebalanced the scales with beautiful soft rains, immediately after our last grapes were picked. This augurs well indeed for harvest 2020. A testament to resilience; despite the vagaries of the weather, wines of the vintage show freshness, concentration and elegance.

The Blend

Twenty-two months in seventy-four percent new French oak barrique, with the balance in older French oak.

Series C 2019 consists of Cabernet Sauvignon (fifty-six percent), equal parts Merlot and Malbec (twenty percent each) and Cabernet Franc (four percent).

Forty-six barrels were produced.



Zelma Long
July 2021



Chris de Vries
July 2021