



2018 CALLUNA VINEYARDS CUVÉE

The 2018 Calluna Vineyards Cuvée is meant to be an expression of our Chalk Hill appellation where great sunlight and a cool climate produces intense fruit in a wine with balancing acidity, round tannins and moderate alcohol levels. The blend expresses the power of Cabernet Sauvignon, elegance of Merlot and Cabernet Franc, and a bit of showiness from Malbec and Petit Verdot.

In 2018, the final blend for the Cuvée is comprised of:

41% Merlot
24% Cabernet Sauvignon
20% Cabernet Franc
9% Malbec
6% Petit Verdot

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Appellation
Chalk Hill

Harvest dates
Malbec: October 1, 2018
Merlot: September 22 & October 1, 2018
Cabernet Franc: October 13 & 20, 2018
Cabernet Sauvignon: October 11, 13, 20 & 27, 2018
Petit Verdot: October 27, 2018

Winemaking
Hand-harvested, manually sorted and fermented with a traditional method in open-top tanks with temperature control. Bottled unfiltered.

Cooperage
21 months in 100% French oak barrels, 20% new

pH
3.7

Alcohol
14.1%

Production
1,538 cases

Release date
Fall 2021

Vintage

2018 started out with a “normal” budbreak in early April after years of earlier budbreak driven by low winter rains. Mild late spring and early summer weather with temperatures regularly in the mid 80s with minimal wind and no rain allowed the vines to set a full crop of fruit. While there was a short run of elevated temperatures in early August, this growing season was notable for a long run of relatively cool but beautiful weather from that point on. There were no damaging heat spikes. And while we did get about 1.5 inches of rain around October 2, it did not bother the fruit and was welcome as it tamped down fire risk at that point. It was essentially a perfect end to a long growing season which yielded ideal ripeness for our fruit. A large and high quality harvest translated into some of our very best wines.

ABOUT CALLUNA VINEYARDS

Calluna Vineyards took root in Sonoma County in 2005 with 12-acres in the Chalk Hill appellation planted to Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Malbec. From its advantageous hillsides overlooking the Russian River Valley, Chalk Hill is known for its mild climate and soils of clay underlain with fractured shale and sandstone. Five more acres were added in 2014, including Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon destined for our Estate Blanc.

DAVID A. JEFFREY, *Winemaker and Founder*

After 20 years of studying and collecting the wines of Bordeaux and California, David moved to the West Coast and enrolled in Fresno State's Enology program in 2001. Determined to make his dream a reality, David spent 3½ years studying winemaking and grape growing as he completed his degree and worked at Chateau Quinault in Bordeaux, France.