

2018 ARMÉ

ESTATE GROWN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

BLEND

85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Merlot,
4% Malbec, 4% Petit Verdot

AGING
20 months in neutral barrels

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

14.6%

PRODUCTION
6,000 cases

RELEASE DATE

Spring 2021

SUGGESTED DRINKING WINDOW

Drink now or age up to fifteen years



HARVEST NOTES

The 2018 Harvest was a grower's dream, but it was not without its exciting moments. Spring rains encouraged healthy roots and set up great canopies. The fruit set and cluster development was flawless. Then August and September clocked in as mild, even bordering on cool. Suddenly we found ourselves looking at the crop's development potentially stalling out but the vines kept working and the first lovely, perfectly ripe fruit was harvested in September. Early October rains soaked the second half of the crop and elicited fears of rot and lost fruit as more storms lined up. Miraculously, the storms failed to materialize and we had a long, dry October and November with beautiful sunny days which slowly ripened the remaining crop. Long seasons like these allow early tannin maturation while the cool weather protects the acid.... all leading to developed, powerful tannins with bright acid at lower than typical brix.

WINE NOTES

The Estate Cabernet Sauvignon comes from our vineyards in Alexander Valley and McDowell Valley. As the 2018 vintage was on the cooler side we waited until late in the season to harvest: from late September to late October. The resultant wines were rich, dark and textural yet have smooth and even mouthfeel as we achieved phenolic ripeness at lower sugars. Balanced between modern California and Old World, this wine is dense with layers of black currant and dark cherry counterbalanced secondary flavors of sandalwood, sandalwood, and kalamata. The clean and focused mouthfeel hints at mint and briar under all the power.

FAMILY SERIES

Our history of family winemaking goes back four generations in Sonoma County. At current count, there have been seven different winemakers in the family. Each has had their own focus and style. The unifying elements have been family, hard work, passion, and a love of the creative process that is winemaking. Our Family Series consists of a Zinfandel, a Cabernet Sauvignon, and a Rhône-style red wine. All three are carefully crafted from Estate Grown grapes from our properties in Northern Sonoma County, the McDowell and Hopland Valleys, and the Yorkville Highlands.

PRAISE FOR 2016 ARMÉ

93 points

The 2016 Armé is another superb wine in the middle tier of the Marietta range. Fresh, savory and superexpressive, the Armé has a lot going on. Black cherry, sage, lavender, menthol and licorice give the wine striking savory nuance to play off the dark Cabernet Sauvignon fruit. More than anything else, though, the Armé is a superb value in California Cabernet.

— Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, Spring 2019