



MARIETTA

2018 GAME TRAIL

ESTATE GROWN
CABERNET SAUVIGNON
YORKVILLE HIGHLANDS

AGING

20 months in neutral barrels

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

14.8%

PRODUCTION

1200 cases

RELEASE DATE

Summer 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 fruit loss 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.

TASTING NOTES

The Yorkville Highlands are the mountain pass traversed between the north end of Alexander Valley and the west end of Anderson Valley. Our small block of Game Trail Cabernet is perched looking south from 1400 feet elevation upon that ridge. Coastal influence and large diurnal swings create small berries, thick skins, deep pigmentation, and tons of structure. Clone 6 Cabernet sets sparingly with berries the size of blueberries and no fruit to fruit contact, so it is cane pruned and left to hang as many clusters as possible. The combination of coastal influence and thin mountain soils yields a wine of great focus and expression. Red currant and blackberries jump from the glass and are balanced by supporting aromas of pinon pine and anise. This textural adventure moves from chewy to fine grained tannins to finish cleanly with a refreshingly focused fore-mouth. The palate mixes the exuberance of blueberry jam with the mineral dustiness of crushed gravel. Evocative and ethereal while also structural and impactful, this is a Cabernet that develops in the glass and will yield years of beautiful expressions.

MARIETTACELLARS.COM



SINGLE ESTATE SERIES

Our Single Estate Series represents our purest expressions of place. Having worked with the fruit from tens of vineyards over the years, we have identified three special sites that we believe create extraordinary wine. Produced in limited quantities, these wines have ultra-developed acid and tannin profiles and achieve a beautiful balance of intense structure and bright aromatics.

PRAISE FOR 2016 GAME TRAIL

94 points

Marietta's 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Game Trail is powerful, dark and quite savory. Smoke, tobacco, gravel, menthol, cedar and licorice all run through this bold, pungent mountain Cabernet. There is quite a bit of aromatic intensity to play off the blackberry fruit in this strapping young wine. Give it a few years in bottle for the tannins to soften.

— Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*,
Spring 2019