

ALEXANDER VALLEY VINEYARDS

2019 CYRUS

In 1840 Alexander Valley namesake Cyrus Alexander rode into our valley and called it the "brightest and best spot in the world". He chose this spot to build his home and raise his family, and many years later we would do the same. Our 25th release is our tribute to the man, the region and the very best of the vintage.

Varietal	Lots	Aging	Aromatics	Traits
Cabernet Sauvignon	3	French & American oak	Complex, chocolate, spice, vanilla, cassis & dark fruits	Dark fruit black cherry, blackberry, big grippy tannins
Merlot	2	French & American oak	Slightly floral	Fruit forward - cherry, cassis & plum
Cabernet Franc	2	French oak	Strong floral, blueberry & dark fruit	Dark chocolate, cassis & vanilla
Malbec	1	French oak	Floral & red fruit	Intense inky color, deep flavors of raspberry & candied fruit
Petit Verdot	1	French oak	Blueberry & vanilla	Dark inky purple color, great acidity on the finish



Although the weather was a bit cooler than usual early in the 2019 growing season, there were no unusual temperature swings during bud break or flowering. Moderate temperatures continued through the summer, allowing the grapes to mature gradually. After 2018's record setting crop size, 2019 swung back to an average yield. After harvest each lot was fermented and aged separately for 12 months, blended to showcase the vintage, then aged for an additional 12 months in French oak barrels to meld the flavors. Additional bottle aging resulted in a seamless blend.

The saturated dark purple color hints lets you know that this is a big wine. Layered aromas of cassis, black cherry, cedar, dark chocolate, vanilla and oak fill the glass. While young, the 2019 is a lush wine with integrated tannins and excellent balance. Cassis, dark chocolate, black cherry and barrel spice along with a structured long finish keep you coming back for another sip. Let it sit in the glass and develop, and you will get an idea of the complexity that will occur with additional cellar aging.

Accolades: 2017: 92 points - *James Suckling*
2016: 96 points - *LA Invitational Wine Challenge*

Profile: • **Elegant, expressive** • **Aromatic and lush**

About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Over the last decade we have replanted our vineyards with reduced spacing resulting in more rows per acre and closer spacing per vine. On some sites we have more than doubled the plants in these high density vineyards. These tightly spaced vines produce around 10-12 pounds of grapes per vine. This low yield results in great complexity in the glass, while more vines per acre is one of the keys to great value in our bottles. So the next time you hear someone quoting tons per acre, be sure to ask them how many vines are producing that ton and compute the pounds per vine.

Technical Data:

Grapes: 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Cabernet Franc, 17% Merlot, 1% Malbec, 1% Petit Verdot

Harvest: September 12 - October 14, 2017

Closure: Cork

First Vintage: 1995

Alcohol: 14.5% **pH:** 3.57 **TA:** 6.4 g/L

UPC: 0-85798-11062-9 **750ml** **Cases:** 4,848 (6 pks)



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