

# ALEXANDER VALLEY VINEYARDS

## 2020 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 26<sup>th</sup> release is our tribute to the man, the region and the best of the vintage.

Varietal	Lots	Aging	Aromatics	Traits
Cabernet Sauvignon	5	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



The 2020 growing season enjoyed near-perfect growing conditions. The year began with unseasonably warm temperatures, and lower than normal rainfall, followed by weeks of steady daytime heat and cool evenings, allowed the grapes to ripen evenly. At harvest, the quality of the fruit was excellent with high acidity and intense flavors. After harvest each lot was fermented and cave aged separately for 12 months, blended to showcase the vintage, then cave 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, earthy aromas of cassis, black cherry, cherry, cedar, dark chocolate, vanilla and oak fill the glass. The 2020 is rich and full-bodied with beautifully integrated tannins and excellent balance. Cassis, dark chocolate, loads of dark fruits, black cherry and barrel spice along with a structured long finish keep you coming back for another sip. Decant and enjoy now or age for future pleasure.

**Accolades:** **2018: 92 points** - *James Suckling*  
**2017: 98 points** - *Somm Journal* **95 points** - *Wine Enthusiast*  
**2016: 96 points** - *LA Invitational Wine Challenge*

<b>Profile:</b>	• <b>Expressive &amp; aromatic</b>	• <b>Elegant &amp; balanced</b>
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### 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:** 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot, 2% Malbec

**Harvest:** September 10 - October 15, 2020

**Closure:** Cork

**First Vintage:** 1995 **Cases:** 3696 (6 btl)

**Alcohol:** 14.5% **pH:** 3.59 **TA:** 6.8 g/L



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