

TOR

N A P A V A L L E Y

PURE MAGIC
VINE HILL RANCH
2019

TOR'S NOTE The TOR house is built and stands on the foundation of single vineyard Cabernet Sauvignons from very special blocks in what some consider First Growth or Premier Cru Napa Valley sites. To us this is hallowed land, and in the case of Beckstoffer To Kalon and Vine Hill Ranch, land that has a long history of extraordinary wines. In Vine Hill Ranch three blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon and one block of Petit Verdot. In 2016 we experimented with co-fermenting the Petit Verdot with the Cabernet from VHR. This is a very risky and daring experiment that blew us out of the water. It is hard to explain how two completely different personalities merge during the process of fermentation to become such a ONE. We've blended them in the past after fermentation, with completely different results. The only explanation we're working with now is it has to be PURE MAGIC. Nothing else makes sense. Because of very little is made, bottles of Pure Magic disappear right before our eyes. Poof!

We believe in Magic.

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WINEMAKING We aged this wine in mostly Darnajou barrels (with a few Taransaud) for about 19th months. It was the longest time on skins in tank so far about 45 days. This is usually a fairly fast ferment so it spends a lot of time on the skins when it is dry.

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WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES Extremely unique and delicious as ever, the 2019 Vine Hill Ranch Pure Magic is its normal ~60% Cabernet and 40% Petite Verdot as a co-ferment. This co-fermentation creates a wine that is so much better and unique than blending the components together after fermentation. This has an extremely rich palate and soaring aromatics that show smoked brisket, earth, black berries, black cherries and mint. This wine will look at 15 years in the cellar and keep going for at least another 5.

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VINTAGE After a good wet spring, the 2019 growing season fell into its typical dry and sunny summer, unmarked by any extremes. Consistent temps helped to preserve freshness and finesse in the fruit with abundant hang time teasing out great color, structure and soft tannins. The fruit set was lighter than 2018, clusters tight and concentrated. 2019 were slow to come around in barrel, but once in bottle showed very precocious, more so than 2018. This is a vintage that is going to make a lot of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon lovers very happy. An outstanding Napa Valley vintage with very accessible wines that will age well.

