

THE TERRACES

2018 Petite Sirah

NAPA VALLEY

Varietal: 94% Petite Sirah, 3% Zinfandel, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon

Cases: 365

Alcohol: 14.47%

Bottled: April 17, 2020

Released: February 1, 2021

Suggest Retail: \$45.00

Vineyard: The Petite Sirah grapes comes from the Dollar Ranch which is located in the Chiles Valley. This historic ranch is named after an old stagecoach stop. This vineyard has fairly warm summer days, but due to its higher elevation and summer fog the temperatures can be quite chilly during the night, ideal for flavor development.

Vintage: After a soggy February and March, warm weather brought a slightly later bud break. Flowering occurred under ideal weather conditions, creating bountiful fruit set. The growing season proved to be idyllic with long warm days and cool evenings. To everyone's surprise, the ripening speeds were uninterrupted by the Valley's typical heat-spikes. The moderate heat extended with gorgeous Fall days allowing for extended hang time in the vineyards leading to complex flavor development without the fear of overripe fruit or rot. The 2018 harvest proved bountiful with production levels above average for this stellar vintage.

Production: The grapes were hand picked and sorted before being de-stemmed. Each lot went into small tanks as both crushed and whole berries. After a long cold soak, the lots were fermented with a combination of wild and cultivated yeasts. A mix of punch downs, pump overs, and rack and returns were performed several times a day to influence extraction in different ways during fermentation. Pressed gently in a basket press and moved with lees to 40% new French-American hybrid and American oak barrels to finish malolactic fermentation. After several rackings, the wine was blended and bottled after 19 months.

Tasting Notes: The 2018 Petite Sirah has a striking deep ruby hue with intense aromas of blackberry, vanilla, mocha, and black mission fig. The palate features black fruits, chocolate, espresso and a touch of baking spice. This full-bodied wine is incredibly balanced with soft, mouth coating tannin, bright acidity and a luxurious finish that lingers. Drink now or cellar for 10+ years.

