

Estate Reserve Red 2018

TASTING

Clos du Soleil's Estate Reserve wines form the pinnacle of our portfolio, and are designed to showcase the unique terroir of our Estate Vineyard on the Upper Bench of the Similkameen Valley. The 2018 vintage is nuanced and complex, with a classic structure. The nose immediately signals the uniqueness of this wine: aromas of stones, graphite, fresh mint, spice and forest undergrowth, layered over ripe black berry fruit: juicy blackberry and blackcurrant. On the palate the wine is full and complex, with soft but full tannins, and fresh acidity, lofted on waves of blackcurrant, raspberry and blackberry, with notes of fresh fig and crushed leaves, on a spine of minerality – wet river stones and graphite, leading to a long, multi-faceted finish. This elegant wine provides loads of pleasure now, but with the structure and density to last for many years.

WINEMAKING

The growing season was ideal: warm, but moderate, allowing for classical structure, particularly given the organic and biodynamic practices utilized in our Estate vineyard. Each variety was hand-harvested separately at peak maturity, then gently destemmed, crushed, and gravity fed into concrete fermentation tanks. Following a moderate cold soak the wines were fermented using only native wild yeasts to reinforce terroir expression. Each variety was vinified separately, and then matured in 100% French oak barrels for 18 months. Following maturation the barrels were blended and left to integrate in tank for 1 month prior to bottling. Entirely unfiltered and unfiltered, as with all Clos du Soleil wines the focus was on minimal handling and minimal intervention, to best showcase the unique terroir.

TECHNICAL

Harvest Dates: 5 October (Merlot); 11 October (Cab Franc);
28/29 October (Cab Sauv, Petit Verdot, Malbec), 2018

Bottling Date: 17 June 2020

Vineyards: Clos du Soleil Estate Vineyard, and
Clos du Soleil La Côte Vineyard, Keremeos,
Similkameen Valley

Varieties: 45% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Cabernet
Franc, 6% Malbec, 3% Petit Verdot

Total Production: 127 cases

Alc: 14.6% **pH:** 3.73 **Titrateable Acidity:** 6.09 g/L **Residual Sugar:** 0.3 g/L **SKU:** +966887 (750mL)



Michael Clark - Winemaker

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