



LE DÉSIR
SONOMA COUNTY
VINTAGE 2018

Vérité Le Désir is a Cabernet Franc-based blend that exudes high-toned aromatics, an iron graphite core and a pronounced minerality. Inspired by the iconic wines of Saint-Émilion, Bordeaux, Le Désir redefines Cabernet Franc from the New World, with layers of concentrated fruit, exotic spice and a plush sueded texture. Vigneron Pierre Seillan tends to a mosaic of more than fifty micro-crus to produce the complex signature of Le Désir.

TASTING NOTES

The 2018 Le Désir has a dark inky appearance with a violet hue that extends to the rim. The compelling characteristics of Cabernet Franc are expressed on the nose and palate with flavors of crunchy cranberry, ripe raspberry, red currant, dried sage, crushed mint, and cinnamon bark; followed by spice cake, subtle vanilla liquor, and singed toast. The persistent finish and bright acidity suggest the wine will continue to evolve in the cellar for many years to come.

BARREL AGING: Aged 16 months in French oak, 95% new

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN: 82% Cabernet Franc, 12% Merlot, 6% Malbec

APPELLATIONS: Alexander Valley, Bennett Valley, Chalk Hill, Knights Valley

ALCOHOL: 14.3%

ACCLAIM

97+ Points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, July 2021

98+ Points - Jeb Dunnuck, *JebDunnuck.com*, July 2021

97 Points - James Suckling, *JamesSuckling.com*, March 2021

VIGNERON NOTES

2018 surely belongs in the ranks of top California vintages from the past two decades. The vintage was marked by ideal weather conditions from budbreak to harvest, which yielded balanced, layered, and structured wines, that will age for decades.

Replenishing winter rains and mild spring temperatures produced a late budbreak, followed by flawless flowering and fruit-set. The growing season that followed was long and relatively cool, encouraging slow and even ripening, allowing tannins to mature while retaining moderate sugar levels, and all-important acidity.

Harvest began early on the morning of September 12 under cool conditions, and concluded on October 5, with our oldest block of 40-year-old mountainside Cabernet Sauvignon.

– Pierre Seillan, Vigneron