

VANESSA

V I N E Y A R D

Carved from stone, fuelled by sun, a vineyard like no other.

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2019 Meritage



Cabernet Franc 32% / Cabernet Sauvignon 27%
/ Merlot 41%

Cabernet Franc Clone 331
Pyrénées-Atlantiques, France
Cabernet Sauvignon Clone 169
Bordeaux, France
Merlot Clone 181 Bordeaux, France

Alcohol 14.1%
Residual Sugar 0.53 g/L
Total Acidity 6.45 g/L
pH 3.74
Brix 28
Cases Produced 754
Released 2024
SKU 160895

VANESSA
VINEYARD

FLAVOUR PROFILE

Our Meritage is a Cabernet-dominant blend of Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. The nose on this fully developed wine has aromas of dark plum, blackberry and thyme. The palate is big, smooth and complex, with notes of dark chocolate, blueberry and the trademark Similkameen minerality. The medium-long finish shows excellent structure and robust concentrated flavours. This wine was bottled in 2021 and bottle aged until release in 2024. This extra time in the bottle before release ensures the blend is smooth, polished and seamlessly integrates the plush fruit.

GROWING CONDITIONS

The growing season started well with moderate temperatures from the beginning of spring, leading into the start of summer. With the summer being warm and dry, autumn saw warmer days and cooler nights, which were warmer and damper than 2018. While this is not great for many grapes, a combination of the Similkameen mistral flow and our vineyards' extremely rocky soil composition kept the grapes dry through an unseasonably cool October until picking was complete. All of this resulted in smaller crop sizes and slow ripening that allowed the fruit to fully mature, with balanced acidity and exciting flavour development in this vintage. Total heat units for 2019 recorded at Vanessa were 1,687 Growing Degree Days, a little lower than the previous year. However, the cooler 2019 growing season gives this vintage unique characters and exceptional quality.

WINEMAKING

Crafted from only 100% estate grown and hand-picked fruit. The grapes were destemmed and underwent a gentle crush before small-batch fermentation and hand punch down to maximize flavour and extraction. This vintage is almost entirely comprised of free run juice with only a very small quantity of pressed juice added to balance the tannins. Each varietal was individually fermented, and barrel aged for 8 months. The small lots were then carefully blended, and the final assemblage was aged 12 additional months in American and French oak of which 40% were new barrels. The result is a seamless, beautifully integrated expression of our terroir.