

# STOLPMAN

≠ Estate, So Fresh, Combe ≠

## GRENACHE 2018

### TECH

#### VINEYARD COMPONENTS

Block 1,3,5

#### VARIETAL BLEND

100% Grenache

#### VINIFICATION

60% whole-cluster, no sulfur through primary fermentation

#### FINAL ANALYSIS

alcohol: 14.5%

#### VATTING/FERMENTATION

Open-top concrete fermenting tanks

#### COOPERAGES & ELEVAGE

100% Neutral 500L French Ermitage 500L Oak Puncheons, daily pump-overs with mid-fermentation rack and returns, foot trodding the drained berries to gently extract more juice

#### RELEASE DATE

April 2020

#### HARVEST DATE

October 18-24 2018

#### TOTAL PRODUCTION

880 cases

## NOTES

### BACKGROUND

Since the world celebrated our vineyards' Syrah crops it was only logical, to us, to explore other "Rhone" varieties. Several trials later, Grenache made the cut. Like Syrah, Grenache expresses each Ballard Canyon vintage differently. Sometimes elegant and high-toned and sometimes downright heady and lovey-dovey. The 2018 falls into the latter category.

### VINTAGE

Heat spikes define vintages in Ballard Canyon. We are blessed to farm without fear of rain, rot, hail, and humidity. In 2018 the only heat wave we suffered through arrived so early, on July 7; that it didn't impact the fruit ripening or quality. The summer turned into a moderate, steady, dream year when acids hung high as sugar slowly accumulated and intense, nuanced flavor developed.

### SENSORY

The 2018 Grenache rivals the decadent 2008 bottling that made us many new friends and club members. Assistant winemaker Matt Nocas crowned this cuvee "baby-making wine." It is red and romantic. Seductive and voluptuous. Polished to perfection, the wine glides – it is giving and generous but with serious structure and Intensity – somehow still leaving a sense of intrigue even after giving so much thick, plush deliciousness up front.