



Helen's Hill 2018 Old Orchard Cabernets



ABOUT

Our Helen's Hill 'Old Orchard' Cabernets combines all 5 of the traditional Bordeaux varieties to produce a classic cool climate Cabernets. Planted on at the top of our Coldstream site, the Cabernet vines grow where there was once an apple orchard. This block has a seam of rock underneath and fragments scattered throughout the soil. They provide a tough home for the vines and a unique minerality to the soil that comes through in the fruit they produce. This block is known for producing low yielding crops with great intensity.

WINEMAKERS NOTES

Picked relatively early to maintain the balance of acid and sugar. The fruit is then destemmed and lightly crushed, maintaining a large amount of whole berries for fermentation. All five varieties are co-fermented on skins for 14 days. Once the primary fermentation is completed, the wine is gently pressed, settled then racked into French oak barrels (40% new) for 18 months to mature.

PREVIOUS VINTAGE AWARDS

- 2014 - 95 points James Halliday
- 2015 - 96 points James Halliday
- 2016 - 95 points James Halliday
- 2017 - 2019 Decanter Asia Silver Medal

2018 VINTAGE REPORT

Moderate rainfall in winter led into above average temperatures and a very successful flowering period of throughout November. Generous rainfall throughout spring, along with warm spring temperatures, led to good yields. Warm but not extreme temperatures continued into summer and meant an early start to harvest. A dry March, with cool overnight temperatures, kept disease pressure low and allowed grapes to retain excellent natural acidity. 2018 was a good all round vintage for all varieties.

TASTING NOTES

Vibrant, deep crimson colour. The nose is classic Cabernets. Earth, spice and black fruits. The palate of this wine is equally complex. Dry, black fruits drive the wine, complimented perfectly with cedar, spice and aniseed notes. Firm tannins provide ample length to the wine and show early indications of the rewards to come for those with the patience to cellar this wine for future drinking.

