



2018 Syrah

Ballard Canyon

***95 Points WE** This Ballard Canyon bottling by a winery based in Napa is golden on many levels. Dark in the glass, it shows aromas of raw meat, dark berry, complex herbs and chai spice. The palate is wrapped in a finely chiseled tension that unleashes waves of bright purple-fruit and flower flavors as well as peppercorn dust and dark cocoa.*

Varietal Composition:

100% Syrah

Aging:

18 Months in 50% New French Oak

Production:

125 Cases

Vineyard:

This Syrah comes exclusively from the Harrison Clarke vineyard in the heart of the Santa Ynez Valley. The vineyard lies within the boundaries of the newly designated Ballard Canyon AVA. The sandy soils and cool microclimate make this an ideal location for growing Syrah and other Rhône varietals. The Syrah we produce from this vineyard is dark in color with a pronounced acid backbone and a savory spice only found from a cool climate vineyard.

Winemaking:

After destemming 2/3's of the handpicked fruit, the grapes were sorted and lightly crushed into an open top stainless fermentation tank. The wine spent a total of 24 days on its skins before being pressed into 50% new Marcel Cadet French oak barrels. The wine spent 18 months in oak and 8 months in bottle before being released.

Tasting Notes:

The 2018 Ballard Canyon Syrah pours a deep, nearly opaque purple with a varietal nose of dried herbs, violet, and sage. A palate of red berry fruit and hints of cracked black pepper meld with soft tannins. A short decant or bottle age will be rewarded.

Technical Data:

pH: 3.6 TA: 5.7 g/L Alc: 14.9%

