



1990

2020

cépage

83% MERLOT

12% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

5% CABERNET FRANC

élèvage

12 MONTHS

40% NEW FRENCH

abv

14.2% (FOR REAL)

srp

\$65

PRIDE

MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS

2018 MERLOT

83% NAPA | 17% SONOMA

Pride Mountain Vineyards sits high atop Napa Valley's Spring Mountain, straddling the Napa / Sonoma county line. Located at the site of the historic Summit Ranch, where wine grapes have been grown since 1885, our beautiful setting includes wine caves dug deep into the mountains and the ruins of an old stone winery dating to 1890. The twisting twenty-minute drive west from St. Helena, or east from Santa Rosa, rewards visitors with a stunning view of rugged Mount St. Helena to the northeast and verdant vineyards rising skyward in all directions.

Our 85 vineyard acres are draped across the gentle rolling crest of the Mayacamas Mountains. Some 2000 feet above the floor of the Napa Valley, our vines receive more light, resulting in tannin and phenolic anti-oxidant levels that are higher than red grapes in the surrounding valleys. This is the main contributor to the broad-shouldered "mountain character" our red wines possess. Although we receive more sunshine, our climate is more even than that of the valley floor, allowing for great hang time potential into the fall. This enables winemaker Sally Johnson to balance the power, lusciousness, and structure of our fruit with freshness and complexity. Indeed, the aromatic and flavor nuances of our wines could only come from the unique woodland terroir of the ranch.

Pride Mountain Vineyards was founded in 1990 by Jim and Carolyn Pride. Today, the winery is owned by the second generation of the Pride family. Pride Mountain Vineyards is recognized as one of the "World's Greatest Wine Estates" by Robert Parker, Jr., joining just 22 other California wineries for this distinction. Pride wines have appeared numerous times on The Wine Spectator's Top 100 Wines of the World list, and have been served at the White House more than 30 times during the last two decades.

THE WINE

The incredible quality of the 2018 vintage is on full display in our Estate Merlot. The wine is sensationally dense with ripe plum, boysenberry, and blackberry that leap out of the glass and coat the palate. The smooth, rich fruit is complemented by milk chocolate, fresh tobacco, sandalwood, black licorice, violet, and mocha. The oak frames the wine nicely with hints of cocoa nibs and baking spices. There is a duality as the voluptuous decadence of the fruit meets volcanic minerality and velvety tannins. The wine envelops your mouth and leaves you wanting more.



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