

Wine Profile Moone-Tsai 2015 Black List XVII

Tasting Notes

Deeply ruby red in hue, our Black List XVII is an eloquent testimonial to its Pritchard Hill origins. Fragrant with blackberry, black cherry and hints of lavender, the wine's nose announces itself with genteel expressiveness that belies a juicy Jiujitsu on the attack. Offering concentrated flavors of cassis, and dark Bing cherry, the wine reveals an alluring complexity, layered with touches of dark chocolate, anise and clove. Aged 22 months in 85% new French oak, the wine's sweet tannins frame the wine handsomely to deliver a pleasing mid-palate marked by a light acidity, refined structure and balance that finishes with length and aplomb. Reminiscent of a fearlessly feisty Leonardo DiCaprio in his earlier films (*Catch Me if You Can, The Beach*), this cabernet invites attention with its freshness and focus, while signaling that patience may also be rewarded with judicious cellaring.

The backbone of this remarkable cabernet hails from a west-facing vineyard on Pritchard Hill perched 1200 feet above the Napa Valley floor, just above St. Helena. With the rich red, iron-filled soils that characterize this prized location, this Black List selections showcases this prized district with notable élan and vigor.

Winemaker: Philippe Melka, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and – recently heralded by Robert Parker as one of the top nine winemakers in the world. "*Where possible, I will minimize winemaking techniques in the cellar so I can create a wine that tells the story of the vineyard. In the end, it must be about the fruit.*"

Wine Facts

Varietal Composition:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyards:	Pritchard Hill, St. Helena
Production:	150 cases
Harvest Date:	September $4^{th} - 18^{th}$, 2015
Cooperage:	85% new French oak - St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	June 7, 2017
Release Date:	February 1, 2019

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