



MOONE + TSAI

Wine Profile

Moone-Tsai 2019 Black List XXVIII

Tasting Notes

In a season marked by copious rainfall, and a long warm summer, the stage was set for the **2019** vintage's remarkable wines. Abundant hang-time teased out great color, structure and tannins yielding exceptional fruit with bright acidity and ample texture.

Deeply ruby-hued and nearly opaque, this red blend tells a tale of two vineyard blocks, both situated in the Coombsville hillsides of this favored southeast district. The soils therein offer excellent drainage and a fine orientation for afternoon sun exposure following the cool and foggy mornings that characterize this notable AVA. Fragrant with blissful hints of black fruit, lavender, and sandalwood shavings; the wine greets the palate with lightly textured layers of blackberry, dark cherry, along with hints of espresso, and ripe tamarind. Aged 18 months in 60% new French oak, the wine's silky tannins and thinly veiled acidity create a pleasing texture leading to a satisfying finish. Dark, deep, with an alluring concentration, the wine delivers a textured narrative that finishes long and satisfyingly, much like a fine noir mystery novel. As Sam Spade (played by the incomparable Humphrey Bogart) said in the film adaptation of Dashiell Hammett's all-time classic, *The Maltese Falcon*, "...it's the stuff that dreams are made of."

The Cabernet Sauvignon in this tasty red blend was sourced from Caldwell Block-15 in Coombsville, with the Petite Verdot coming from a nearby vineyard block located in southeast Napa Valley where soils are characterized by a unique blend of red volcanic soils and clay. The grapes are allowed to achieve full ripeness without the pressure of heat extremes common in warmer areas, and low vigor soils throughout the vineyard create small, dense clusters.

Winemaker: Philippe Melka, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and – 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:	74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Petite Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc
Vineyards:	Caldwell Block-15, Collientta Vineyard
Production:	170 cases
Harvest Date:	October 28 th - 31 st , 2019
Cooperage:	18-months: 60% new French oak: St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	June 23, 2021
Release Date:	September 1, 2022

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