



2019 ISTHMUS RED WINE

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2019 vintage began with steady winter precipitation, including a record eighteen inches of rain in February. Cooler weather in February and March delayed the start of the growing season until April. An additional four inches of rain in May encouraged strong vine growth through late July. The wet spring was followed by a dry summer and warm August, providing ideal ripening conditions post-veraison. Thanks to the abundant rainfall and our commitment to dry farming, 75% of our vineyards were farmed without irrigation in 2019. The warm, dry weather allowed the grapes to ripen fully. Harvest began with Sauvignon Blanc on August 27 and continued steadily through mid-September. A dry heat wave starting September 24 accelerated picking, which concluded by October 7. The 2019 wines are defined by purity of fruit and bright freshness.

TASTING NOTES

Deep ruby-hued, the lifted nose reveals dark cherry, plum, and fresh black and blue fruits, mingled with violets, sage, umami, and crushed stone. The palate is multidimensional and complete, centered on a layered core that builds toward an expansive finish. Impeccably balanced, with refined tannins and lively freshness, the wine is accessible now yet will continue to evolve over the next ten to fifteen years.

INFORMATION

Variety	53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot		
Vineyard	89% Nuns Canyon Vineyard, 11% Hamel Family Ranch		
Appellation	Sonoma Valley	Harvest Dates	9.14.19 – 10.7.19
Vintage	2019	Bottling Date	6.1.21
Production	2,068 cases	Alcohol	14.5%
Fermentation	68% stainless steel tanks, 31% concrete tanks, 1% oak tanks		
Aging	18 months in 22% new French oak barrels, 78% neutral French oak barrels		



Hamel produces estate-grown wines from the western hillsides of the Mayacamas Mountains in the Moon Mountain District and Sonoma Valley. With a commitment to dry farming, certified organic and biodynamic practices and a meticulous focus on terroir, Hamel's winegrowing team aims to express the distinctive volcanic character of their vineyard sites through Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc and Grenache blends. As a family-owned and operated winery, Hamel is committed to sustainability, stewardship and forward-thinking innovation.

Media Contact: Sam Folsom
sam@folsomandassociates.com