

Merlot 2019

Technical Information:

Appellation	VOA Creek Shores
Vineyard(s)	Lakeshore Farm Vineyard
Grape Variety(ies)	Merlot 100%
Brix at Harvest	22.1° average
Alcohol Content	13.0%
Residual Sugar	4.5 grams /litre
Total Production	1000 cases of 12



TASTING NOTES

Intense ruby in the glass with notes of black raspberry, baking spice and leather. Medium-bodied with flavours of plum, black raspberry and spice with bright acidity, soft tannins and a balanced, savory finish.

Enjoy now with grilled game, roasted fowl stuffed with dried fruit, hard cheeses and pastas with rich tomato-based sauces. Can also be cellared for the medium term to further develop complexities.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were harvested in mid October exclusively from the Lakeshore Farm Vineyard to the northeast of the winery. After manual sorting the grapes were crushed and destemmed and fermented in stainless steel tanks with regular delestage to gently extract colour and structure. After 30 days skin contact, the wine was pressed and moved back to stainless steel tanks for malolactic fermentation and aging until it was bottled in April 2020 following light fining and filtration.

VINTAGE NOTES

After a fairly cold winter, mild weather began in March but it was some time until real warm weather began, giving the growing season a slow and wet start. The summer was quite warm and allowed for full phenolic maturity in all varieties. Harvest started in the second week of September for sparkling and was quickly followed by early ripening whites such as Pinot Gris, followed by Chardonnay and Riesling at the end of September and early October. The temperatures were mild but a bit wet so Pinot Noir and Gamay were also harvested early October followed by Cabernet Franc in late October. There was a snow storm in mid November so yields were reduced on Cabernet Sauvignon which was harvested in late November. The quality of the grapes was very good to excellent with high acidity and concentrated flavours throughout the portfolio. Wines should have the capacity to age for the medium to long term.