



# BOUCHAINE

NAPA VALLEY • CARNEROS

## 2018 Hyde Vineyard Merlot



### Vineyard

The Hyde family is known for their expertise in growing cool-climate grape varietals in the Carneros region of the Napa Valley. They originally planted Hyde Vineyard in the 1970s. Their Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays are well known around the world, and their Merlot isn't one to let those alone share the spotlight. This Merlot is meticulously farmed, which gives the Bouchaine winemaking team the amazing opportunity to translate that incredible terroir into the bottle.

### Growing Season

2018 delivered a late but incredible harvest. Beautiful weather during bloom allowed for a bounty of exceptional fruit. A cool, foggy summer with no heat events ensured slow even ripening, vibrant acidity and superb flavor development.

### Vinification

All fruit is hand harvested at night, preserving berry integrity. After a 7-day cold soak, fruit is fermented with native yeast in an open top tank. Post-fermentation, the wine is drawn off and the must placed into a basket press for gentle pressing. The wine completes malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels and puncheons and is aged on the lees for 16 months before bottling.

### Tasting Notes

Historians look to the past, learn from our mistakes, and use that knowledge to make our future brighter. By that reasoning, Larry Hyde is a true historian of Carneros. Forty years of grape growing in a single region of Napa will teach you a thing or two, and we have the good fortune of seeing that decades-long quest represented in our Hyde Vineyard Merlot from a block planted in 1986. This isn't just a cool-climate old vine Merlot, full of both grace and boldness. This is a history lesson in a bottle, a master class given by the King of Carneros. Open a bottle and make your future brighter!

<b>Appellation</b> Napa Valley, Carneros	<b>Vineyard</b> Hyde Vineyard	<b>Aging</b> 16 months
<b>Harvest Dates</b> October 17, 2018	<b>Bottling Date</b> March 20, 2020	<b>Maturation</b> 45% new French oak
<b>pH</b> 3.5	<b>TA</b> 6.1 g/L	<b>RS</b> 0 g/L
<b>Alcohol</b> 14.3%	<b>Production</b> 250 cases (750ml)	<b>Suggested Retail</b> \$90