

PALOMA



MERLOT

In 2003, Paloma Vineyard's 2001 Merlot was chosen by the Wine Spectator as the Wine of the Year out of over 15,000 wines from around the world. Since 2003, Paloma Merlot has been in the Wine Spectator TOP 100 two more times—in 2004 for the 2002 vintage (54th) and in 2008 for the 2006 vintage (65th)—as well as received an honorable mention from Wine Spectator's James Laube in 2012 for the 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon. Paloma Vineyard estate fruit is picked in multiple small lots, from late September to mid-November and is hand-crafted in the same small lots. The 2018 is 86% Merlot and 14% Cabernet Sauvignon. It is fermented and then aged in French oak—33% new—for 18 months before being bottled in the spring and bottle-aged for an additional 30 months.

The 2018 Paloma Merlot is luscious. In the glass, the color exhibits deep garnet tones. On the nose you're greeted with notes of violet, dark fruit, black licorice, and pepper. On the palate, you'll note signs of hearty ripe plums, black olives, anise, and a finish of rich, dark chocolate. This would pair beautifully with grilled steak, portobello mushrooms, strong-flavored cheese!

AVA	Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley	Vintage	2018
Blend	86% Merlot / 14% Cabernet Sauvignon	Alcohol	14.8%
Cooperage	33% new French oak (Nadalié)	Production	2302 cases
Bottled	May 2020	Initial Retail	\$66
Released	Aug 2022	Current Retail	\$72