



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!

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

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 (54<sup>th</sup>) and in 2009 for the 2006 vintage (65<sup>th</sup>)—as well as received the Wine Spectator Special Selection in 2012 for the 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon. Paloma Vineyard uses only estate fruit that is picked, fermented, and barreled in small lots. Any blending is completed just prior to bottling, allowing for maximum development before deciding on final ratios.