



Vineland Cabernet Merlot

We have featured wine from Vineland Estate in WineCollective previously. We're a fan of the expression of the Niagara terroir that Vineland achieves in most of their wines. This VQA wine is a blend of 82% Cabernet Franc which is sourced from the Escarpment Bench region of Niagara and 18% Merlot, which is sourced from Beamsville (closer to Niagara-on-the-Lake). The earlier ripening, somewhat lighter brother to Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc is far better suited to Canadian growth which ensures full ripening in the Niagara micro-climate. The grapes are fermented separately and blended in stainless steel and neutral French oak barrels for eight months. While previously available from the winery, this wine is completely new to the Alberta market. It will likely evolve for two or three years and should be consumed by 2016. Decant for 15 - 30 minutes for maximum expression of the varietals.

Varietals: Cabernet Franc, Merlot
Region: Niagara Peninsula, Ontario
Alcohol: 12%
Price: \$22

Eyes

Light in body, reflective of the 12% alcohol. A garnet or red colour, which shows off the Cabernet Franc.

Nose

The aroma here is heavy on Cabernet Franc, where bell pepper greenness is present. That doesn't mean this is underripe fruit, as the red fruit notes flow through nicely. Some elements of cedar and oak hover on the edges.

Mouth

The berries showing on the nose, also come through on the palate here. The eight months in oak is noticeable with the creamy mouthfeel but it never detracts from the overall experience. The tannins are structured but still young and somewhat aggressive. The acidity is medium to medium plus which makes you think of food pairings when enjoying this wine.

Food Pairing

Cab Franc is a fantastic food pairing red. Charcuterie, pork chops (actually pork in almost any format), or a heavier fish such as salmon, mahi-mahi or tuna.



Vineland Cabernet Merlot

Eyes

Clarity: clear - cloudy - dull

Intensity: pale - medium - deep

Colour: purple - ruby - garnet - brick - brown

Nose

Intensity: light - medium - pronounced

Aroma: cherry - strawberry - raspberry - plum - blackberry
blueberry - blackcurrant - prune - jam - licorice - chocolate - flowers
vanilla - oak - smoke - pepper - coffee - leather - game - mint - green
pepper - earth - tar - stones - minerals

Mouth

Sweetness: dry - off-dry - sweet

Acidity: low - medium - high

Tannin: low - medium - high

Body: light - medium - full

Flavour: cherry - strawberry - raspberry - plum - blackberry
blueberry - blackcurrant - prune - jam - licorice - chocolate
flowers - vanilla - oak - smoke - pepper - coffee - leather - game
mint - green pepper - earth - tar - stones - minerals

Finish: short - medium - long

Rate, comment and order more online!

May 2013

Extraordinary Wine to Your Door - WineCollective.ca - 1.855.501.WINE

