



DOMINIQUE PORTET

Yarra Valley

DOMINIQUE PORTET CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2015

Vine

We could barely have wished for a better season than 2015 in the Yarra Valley. The crop was set nicely when a good winter was followed by a settled spring with moderate rainfall and mild temperatures. Summer was pleasantly warm but without heat spikes. A dry March with cool nights yielded ripe, healthy grapes with excellent natural acidity. The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes came from two Yarra Valley sites that are home to mature vines (20+ years) on soils of sandstone over clay. The first, in Coldstream, is the cooler of the two while the second site is at Steels Creek on a warm, steep west-facing slope. This is the first year we've moved to a true "Bordeaux blend", with a third site – our home vineyard in Coldstream - contributing the complementary varieties to give the blend greater definition and complexity.

Wine

The blend comprises 92% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Merlot, with the remaining 2% made up of Malbec, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. We picked the grapes by hand, bringing in the Cabernet Sauvignon on 20th March. The fruit was sorted on our state-of-the-art sorting line, then destemmed and gently crushed. The wine spent 25 days on skins all up, in order to develop structure and a silky texture while still at peak freshness. It was then aged in French oak (40% new) for 16 months – a little longer than usual, owing to the fruit density. It then spent two months in tank to fully integrate before being bottled on our new bottling line. This key addition to our winery reduces oxygen pick-up and preserves the fruit's lovely aromatics.

Glass

The **Dominique Portet Cabernet Sauvignon 2015** is layered and alluring on the nose, with an array of forest berries and plums laid over pencil lead, bay leaf and spice. Ripe, zesty blackcurrant and plum follow on a detailed palate that is lively and long. It's threaded with savoury counterpoints of cedar, licorice and tobacco, while dense but super-fine tannins lend texture and shape – and suggest this has decades ahead of it. The vivid palette of flavours makes this attractive now, but this will continue to paint a beautiful picture of the 2015 Yarra Valley vintage for many years to come.

Released: November 2017

Alcohol: 14%

RRP: \$60

Closure: Cork

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ABOUT DOMINIQUE PORTET

The Yarra Valley winery was established in 2000 by Bordeaux-raised Dominique Portet, whose family's winemaking history stretches back 10 consecutive generations to 18th century France. Dominique and son Ben craft fresh, elegant, expressive wines from Sparkling Rosé to Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz, coolly grown in the Victorian regions of the Yarra Valley and Heathcote.