



DOMINIQUE PORTET

Yarra Valley

DOMINIQUE PORTET FONTAINE CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2017

Vine

This is the third year we've aimed for a juicier, more slurpable style of Fontaine Cabernet. The 2017 is a more classical and elegant vintage for us. We had good rainfall in late spring, yet a relatively late warm summer that lacked the previous year's heat spike. This allowed the grapes to ripen well, although we picked much later than in previous years. Grapes for the **Dominique Portet Fontaine Cabernet Sauvignon 2017** came from a range of vineyards in the northern and southern end of the Yarra Valley. Soils are rocky and hungry, with a clay base and lots of broken sandstone. These north-facing sites are excellent for Cabernet that has clear, juicy, concentrated fruit with soft, silky tannins.

Wine

The blend is 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot and 1% Malbec. We picked and sorted all varieties by hand. We de-stemmed the grapes and gently crushed them before fermenting them at relatively cool temperatures to accentuate the beautiful aromatics of the Cabernet. The wine stayed on skins for two weeks, during which time colour and tannins were gently extracted. We then gave the wine 12 months to mature in French oak barrels, 30% of which were new. We bottled it in April 2018.

Glass

Strikingly bright purple in colour, its enticing aromas are evocative of fresh summer pudding. This vintage is showing excellent ripe red fruits, with a bouquet of redcurrants, raspberries and red plum, while underlying notes of bay leaf and cedar bring a savoury element. The wine is soft and medium-bodied in the mouth, with a dusty density from tangy grape tannins. The oak envelopes the abundance of plum and berry fruit in a welcomed creaminess. Its plush ripeness is offset by the very fresh cut of its tannins and acids, giving it a crisp and buoyant feel. This wine has a lovely accessibility, its opulent red fruits provide lush, juicy flavours through to the finish, and fragrant blackberry notes. Vibrant, shapely and a real joy to drink.

Released: May 2018

Alcohol: 13.5%

RRP: \$22

Closure: Screwcap

---ENDS---

For more information contact Ben Portet at ben@dominiqueportet.com

Instagram: www.instagram.com/dominiqueportet

Twitter: www.twitter.com/portet_wines

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, Pyrenees and Heathcote.