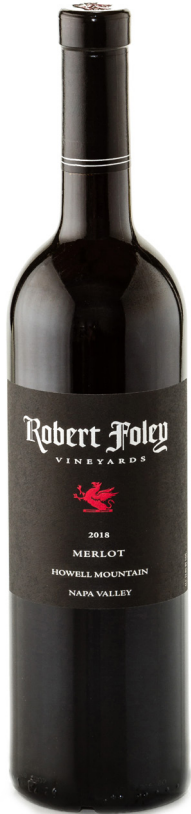


Robert Foley

VINEYARDS



2018 HOWELL MOUNTAIN MERLOT

This is our single-vineyard, estate-grown Merlot from a small vineyard block adjacent to our winery facility at the 2000' elevation on Howell Mountain.

Only three barrels of this lot were bottled. Super-ripe blackberry and black currant aromas are augmented by just a hint of roasted coffee bean. Rich and mouth-coating on the palate, this Merlot floods the senses with rich ripe flavors. Gently gripping tannins resolve this full-bodied wine – likely the biggest Merlot you've tried.

My first experience with Merlot grown on Howell Mountain was in the 1980s and I was astounded by the expression of Merlot grown in this Viticultural Area. In 2006, we planted Clone 3 Merlot from cuttings at the Paloma Vineyard on Spring Mountain, whose wines I produced during their first eight vintages beginning in 1994. I felt these were some of the best Merlot bottlings I have had the pleasure to craft in the 44 vintages I have worked with this grape variety and I was thrilled to bring this pedigree clone to our Howell Mountain Vineyard.

Most of the production from this small lot is blended into our Napa Valley Merlot, but we set aside a small amount from each vintage to be bottled separately as a 100% Howell Mountain Merlot.

SPECIFICATIONS

Wine: 2018 Howell Mountain Merlot
Appellation: Howell Mountain, Napa Valley
Vineyard: Robert Foley Estate
Harvest: Hand-picked October 2018
Vinification: Ten-day fermentation, French Oak barrels
Alcohol: 15.3%
Bottled: August 2020
Production: 50 cases
Winemaker: Bob Foley
Retail price: \$75