



LANCASTER

*Estate*



*Spring 2023 Release*



LANCASTER  
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WINEMAKER'S  
NOTES



BOTTLED  
APRIL 15, 2021

## LANCASTER ESTATE 2019 SOPHIA'S HILLSIDE CUVÉE

### OUR THOUGHTS...

*Our 2019 Sophia's Hillside Cuvée is composed of our young hillside blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon. The fruit from these estate vineyard blocks meld together to create a perfectly balanced, intense wine. It has the fruit-forward youthfulness and freshness of the young Cabernet Sauvignon that is softened and balanced by the French oak aging. Upon opening, deep aromas of dark plum, black pepper, tobacco and clove fill the nose. The palate mirrors the aromas with additional notes of black cherry, leather and savory dried herbs. A soft mouthfeel and smooth, refined tannins linger on the lush finish.*

### VINTAGE AND WINEMAKING NOTES:

The 2019 growing season began with a cool spring, delaying bud break. Summer temperatures were average and allowed the grapes to ripen at a steady pace. All of our vines were harvested by October 26, when the Kincade Fire brought picking to an abrupt halt. Our fruit from this vintage was of exceptional quality.

### COOPERAGE:

After primary fermentation in stainless steel tanks, the wine was underwent malolactic fermentation and aged sur lie in 100% new French oak for 18 months. We chose barrels from several coopers including Taransaud, Demptos, Saury and Bel Air. 30% of the barrels were new and all were coopered using a combination of Medium Plus, Medium Long and Heavy toast levels to provide better integration and balance.

### COMPOSITION & ANALYSIS:

*Production: 1,083 cases*

*Varietals: 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Malbec  
4% Cabernet Franc*

*Titrateable Acidity: 5.9 g/L*

*pH: 3.80*

*Alcohol: 14.5%*

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BOTTLED  
FEBRUARY 2021

## LANCASTER ESTATE 2018 SOPHIA'S HILLSIDE CUVÉE

### OUR THOUGHTS...

*Our 2018 Sophia's Hillside Cuvée is composed of our young hillside blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon. The fruit from these estate vineyard blocks meld together to create a perfectly balanced, intense wine. It has the fruit-forward youthfulness and freshness of the young Cabernet Sauvignon that is softened and balanced by the French oak aging. Inviting aromas of black cherry, blueberry and plum entice your senses. The palate displays bright fruit flavors with hints of dark cocoa and subtle savory undertones. Lush, velvety tannins linger on the finish and make this a wine that will age well for years to come.*

### VINTAGE AND WINEMAKING NOTES:

The Alexander Valley experienced another ideal growing season in 2018. The long season provided moderate temperatures for the grapes to ripen at the optimal speed. The result is an incredible vintage marked by clean, outstanding fruit characteristics with balanced acidity and sugar levels.

### COOPERAGE:

This wine was aged sur lie for 18 months in 100% French oak from the Nevers and Allier forests in central France. We chose barrels from several coopers including Taransaud, Demptos, Saury and Bel Air. 30% of the barrels were new and all were coopered using a combination of Medium Plus, Medium Long and Heavy toast levels to provide better integration and balance.

### COMPOSITION & ANALYSIS:

*Production: 1,020 cases*

*Varietals: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon*

*Titrateable Acidity: 5.3 g/L*

*pH: 3.63*

*Alcohol: 14.5%*

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BOTTLED  
APRIL 2019

LANCASTER ESTATE  
2017 SOPHIA'S HILLSIDE CUVÉE

OUR THOUGHTS...

*Our 2017 Sophia's Hillside Cuvée is composed of our young hillside blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Merlot. The fruit from these estate vineyard blocks meld together to create a perfectly balanced, intense wine. It has the fruit-forward youthfulness and freshness of the young Cabernet Sauvignon that is softened ever so slightly by the Malbec and Merlot. The wine displays bright fruit on the nose with hints of chocolate and subtle savory undertones in the mouth.*

VINTAGE AND WINEMAKING NOTES:

The 2017 growing season brought fruit of exceptional quality and concentration. A wet winter followed by a relatively cool spring started what seemed to be a normal growing season. Temperatures were moderate in June and July however, a Labor Day heat spike stalled the grapes maturing for about two weeks setting up a later than normal harvest. Throw in some wild fires and it made for an overall unique vintage.

COOPERAGE:

This wine was aged sur lie for 18 months in 100% French oak from the Nevers and Allier forests in central France. We chose barrels from several coopers including Taransaud, Demptos, Saury and Bel Air. 30% of the barrels were new and all were coopered using a combination of Medium Plus, Medium Long and Heavy toast levels to provide better integration and balance.

COMPOSITION & ANALYSIS:

*Production: 1,031 cases*

*Varietals: 96% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Malbec  
2% Merlot*

*Titrateable Acidity: 6.4 g/L*

*pH: 3.77*

*Alcohol: 14.5%*

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BOTTLED  
JANUARY 22, 2019

## LANCASTER ESTATE 2016 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### OUR THOUGHTS...

*The 2016 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon captures the pure expression of our unique terroir at Lancaster Estate. It is a blend of all five of the red Bordeaux varieties we have planted on our volcanic hillside vineyards. Deep in color, it reveals a complex nose of black currant, plum, anise and violet. Refined and polished tannins provide amazing structure and depth that complement commanding flavors of dark plum, black currant, blackberry, savory leather and dark chocolate. An incredible display of the rich and concentrated flavors that come from our estate vineyards, this wine glides across the palate for a long, decadent finish. This wine should be decanted when young, and will only gain in complexity for the next 15-20 years.*

### VINTAGE AND WINEMAKING NOTES:

The 2016 growing season brought fruit of exceptional quality and concentration. We had sufficient rainfall in the winter to help alleviate drier than average conditions in recent years. Temperatures were moderate with some minor heat spikes in June and July. However, a cooling off period in August led to ideal conditions at harvest. The wines from this vintage have great uniformity, concentration and outstanding balance.

### COOPERAGE:

This 2016 was aged 24 months in 100% French oak. We chose barrels from several coopers including Darnajou, Taransaud, Demptos, Ermitage, Saury, Bel Air and Sylvain. 60% of the barrels were new and all were coopered using a combination of Medium, Medium Plus, Medium Long, and Heavy toast levels to provide optimal integration and balance.

### COMPOSITION & ANALYSIS:

*Production: 1,594 cases*

*Varietals: 91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot,  
2% Malbec, 1% Petit Verdot,  
1% Cabernet Franc*

*Titrateable Acidity: 5.53 g/L  
pH: 3.85  
Alcohol: 14.5%*

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#LE0323