



Dalla Valle

Representing the pinnacle of Dalla Valle's production, Maya 2018 is a bold, expressive wine with intricate layers of dark fruit, mineral notes, and a refined tannic structure.

DALLA VALLE
Vineyards



Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 60% Cabernet
Sauvignon, 40% Cabernet Franc

Maya 2018

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

The **Maya 2018** comes from Dalla Valle's estate vineyards located in the **eastern hills of Oakville**, Napa Valley. This area is known for its **iron-rich, rocky soils**, which provide excellent drainage and contribute a distinctive mineral quality to the wine. The Oakville AVA's warm, sunny climate, tempered by cooling influences from the San Pablo Bay, allows for a slow, even ripening process. This climate is ideal for Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, yielding grapes with intensity and balance.

The **Maya Block**, a specific section of the vineyard known for producing consistently exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon, is central to this wine. Adjacent blocks of Cabernet Franc add complexity and structure, creating a blend that reflects the vineyard's unique terroir. The vineyards are managed using **organic and biodynamic practices**, emphasizing sustainability and allowing the natural characteristics of the site to shine.

Winemaking

The **2018 Maya** blend consists of **60% Cabernet Sauvignon** and **40% Cabernet Franc**, both harvested in October at peak ripeness. The grapes underwent a natural fermentation process, followed by **22 months of aging in 100% new French oak barrels**. This extended aging period enhances the wine's complexity, lending it structure and subtle oak influence without overpowering the fruit.

Bottled without filtration or fining, the Maya 2018 is crafted with minimal intervention, allowing the wine's natural expression and purity to come forward. The resulting wine is dense, polished, and highly expressive, with an impressive concentration that promises longevity and development with bottle age.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Dark garnet with a deep, opaque core.
- **Aroma:** Complex aromas of Bing cherry, clove, pencil lead, and gravel, accented by hints of bay leaf, vanilla, and subtle floral notes.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and intense, featuring layers of black cherry, dark plum, and earthy minerality. The tannins are firm and refined, leading to a long, layered finish with notes of spice and crushed stone.



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Maya 2018

Did you know?

Maya is named after Naoko Dalla Valle's daughter and reflects the highest expression of the estate. This blend consistently includes grapes from the Maya Block, known for producing Dalla Valle's most compelling wines, with Cabernet Franc adding an exciting new dimension to each vintage.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Braised Short Ribs with Rosemary and Thyme:** The richness of the short ribs and herbs pairs well with the wine's robust structure and dark fruit notes.
- **Rack of Lamb with Black Olive Tapenade:** The wine's tannic backbone and earthy minerality complement the savory depth of lamb and olive.
- **Porcini Mushroom Risotto:** The creamy risotto and earthy mushrooms enhance the wine's complex layers of minerality and spice.
- **Aged Gouda or Comté Cheese:** The nutty, caramelized flavors of aged cheese balance the wine's power and bring out its subtle vanilla and cherry notes.



Robert Parker (RP) : 100 Points (2018)

The very deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Maya is shy and restrained to begin. With swirling, it begins to reveal beguiling notes of fragrant earth, lavender, garrigue and Sichuan pepper, giving way to a core of wild blueberries, boysenberries, black raspberries and black currants plus a hint of iron ore. The palate is full-bodied, revealing itself in slow-releasing layers of black and blue fruits with exhilarating earth and mineral sparks, framed by firm, beautifully ripe tannins and bold freshness, finishing on a persistent ferrous note. As cerebral as it is downright hedonic, this Maya is simply jaw-dropping.



Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 100 Points (2018)

A smaller production cuvée from a single parcel of the estate vineyard, the 2018 Maya Proprietary Red Wine is the normal 60/40 split of Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon brought up in a mix of new and used barrels. Incredibly perfumed with complex notes of blue fruits, flowers, loamy earth, graphite, and tobacco, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, polished, silky tannins, no hard edges, and a finish that won't quit. While this is a rich, concentrated wine, it's the complexity, elegance, and finesse that define this cuvée, which is going to benefit from just short-term cellaring and cruise for 2-3 decades.



Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 98 Points (2018)

The 2018 Maya is stratospheric. Inky, deep and wonderfully layered, Maya is off the charts. Inky red/purplish fruit, cedar, licorice, spice, tobacco and mocha are some of the many notes that grace the 2018. The wine is young, but exceptional and vivid. Maya is usually much more forbidding at this stage, this is an incredibly refined vintage. The purity and delineation of the flavors is unreal. Moreover, the 2018 is a wine of extreme pleasure. (AG)

