

# Harlan Estate

A monumental expression of Napa Valley, the 2018 Harlan Estate seamlessly marries power and finesse, offering a wine of profound depth and elegance.



## Harlan Estate 2021

California, USA

### Region and Vineyards

Situated in the western hills of Oakville, Napa Valley, Harlan Estate encompasses approximately 40 acres of vineyards nestled within a 240-acre property. The estate's diverse topography, ranging from 225 to 1,225 feet in elevation, offers a mosaic of microclimates and soil types, including volcanic rock and sedimentary formations. This diversity contributes to the complexity and depth of the wines produced.

The 2018 growing season was marked by a mild spring and a warm, steady summer, allowing for extended hang time and optimal ripening. These conditions yielded fruit of exceptional quality, characterized by balanced acidity, concentrated flavors, and refined tannins.

### Winemaking

The 2018 Harlan Estate is a blend predominantly composed of Cabernet Sauvignon, complemented by Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot. Fermentation occurs in oak tanks using indigenous yeasts, followed by malolactic fermentation in barrel. The wine is then aged for approximately 24 to 36 months in new French oak barrels, allowing for integration and development of complex aromas and flavors.

Bottled without fining or filtration, the 2018 vintage embodies the estate's philosophy of minimal intervention, aiming to capture the essence of the vineyard and the character of the vintage.

### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep garnet-purple with a luminous intensity.
- **Aroma:** An intricate bouquet of blackberry compote, cassis, and black cherry interwoven with notes of graphite, violets, and subtle hints of cedar and spice.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and impeccably balanced, the palate reveals layers of dark fruit, espresso, and earthy minerality. Silky tannins and vibrant acidity lead to a persistent, nuanced finish.

Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Blend

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## Did you know?

Founded in 1984 by H. William Harlan, Harlan Estate was conceived with the ambition to create a California "First Growth." Over the decades, the estate has garnered acclaim for producing wines that rival the great estates of Bordeaux, solidifying its status as a cult icon in the world of fine wine.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled venison with blackberry reduction:** The wine's dark fruit profile complements the richness of the game.
- **Herb-crusted lamb rack:** Earthy undertones and refined tannins harmonize with the savory flavors.
- **Wild mushroom risotto:** The wine's complexity enhances the umami depth of the dish.
- **Aged Comté or Gouda cheese:** Robust flavors align with the wine's intensity and structure.

**Robert Parker (RP) : 100 Points (2019)**

*The head-spinning 2019 Harlan Estate is truly amazing stuff. Gentle cedar notes lead into layered dark chocolate and cassis, somehow impossibly rich yet savory. Full-bodied, concentrated and supple, this is dense, packed with flavor but seemingly weightless, with a lush, lingering finish that combines intensity with freshness to compel sip after sip. Like all truly great wines, it's full of somehow harmonious contradictions.*

**Decanter (DCT) : 100 Points (2019)**

*Tasted with winemaker Cory Empting and director of winegrowing Bob Levy at Harlan Estate. Fresh and approachable, with the elegance and structural integrity to last four or five decades, possibly longer. On the nose, beautiful upfront savouriness reveals cassis notes, cigar box and black olive followed by ripe, fresh black and blue fruit. Mesmerizing depth of flavours, with beautiful creamy black and red berries and a deep vein of earthy minerality. Tannins are angular with impressive grip, while acids are firm and refreshing. The finish is offers nuanced black currants, dark chocolate, enticing tobacco and cedar.*

**James Suckling (JS) : 100 Points (2019)**

*A wine with an endless finish that is tension-driven, with fine tannins and an energetic acidity. Medium to full body with ultra-fine tannins. Blackcurrant character. Subtle and extremely long. Thought-provoking. Youthful. Great length. This is an abstract wine that sets a new benchmark for Napa Valley reds. Truly unique. Drink after 2027.*