



Balnaves

Balnaves The Tally Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2018 is a benchmark for Coonawarra Cabernet, offering intense black fruit, fine-grained tannins, and exceptional depth—a wine that embodies Balnaves' dedication to excellence.



The Tally Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2018

Coonawarra, Australia

Region and Vineyards

This wine is crafted from the **Dead Morris vineyard** in the Coonawarra region, renowned for its **terra rossa soils** and cool climate, ideal for cultivating rich and refined Cabernet Sauvignon. The **2018 vintage** was marked by warm and dry conditions, allowing for full phenolic ripeness and robust tannin development, which contributed to the wine's intense structure and depth. Balnaves' terroir-driven approach leverages the limestone base and rich red soils that enhance the concentration and minerality of the wine, providing a balanced acidity and aging potential.

Winemaking

Balnaves The Tally 2018 is a **blend of 92% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8% Petit Verdot**. The grapes are hand-harvested, followed by a **10-day fermentation** and **16 days of extended maceration** on skins, adding tannin structure and depth. The wine was matured for **15 months in fine-grained Taransaud Château barriques**, with 40% new French oak to preserve elegance and integrate tannins. The result is a powerful yet refined wine with a lengthy finish, showing well-balanced oak influence.

With an **alcohol content of 14.5%**, a **total acidity of 6.60 g/L**, and a **pH of 3.40**, this Cabernet delivers structured acidity and depth.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep, vivid red with garnet hues, reflecting intensity and aging potential.
- **Aroma:** Aromas of red and black fruits, with notes of spice, forest floor, and hints of dark chocolate and hazelnut.
- **Palate:** Medium to full-bodied, showcasing layers of black fruit, fine tannins, and a structured finish with hints of coffee and earthy complexity.

Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Petit Verdot



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Did You Know?

The name **"The Tally"** honors founder Doug Balnaves' shearing background, where each "tally" of sheep shorn was a mark of skill. For the Balnaves family, this wine symbolizes the pinnacle of their craft, reflecting the labor and excellence they bring to their winemaking.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled Ribeye with Rosemary:** The wine's bold tannins and black fruit notes complement the richness of ribeye, while its spice resonates with rosemary.
- **Roasted Duck with Plum Sauce:** The acidity and dark fruit flavors of the wine enhance the savory, sweet profile of roasted duck and plum.
- **Aged Cheddar:** The nutty, mature flavors of aged cheddar pair harmoniously with the wine's complex structure.
- **Mushroom and Thyme Risotto:** The earthy notes and structured acidity in the wine balance the creamy risotto, enhancing the thyme's herbaceousness.



James Halliday (JH) : 96 Points (2018)

A magnificent Tally. The fruit has a great depth of flavour and the X-factor that any Reserve should. Deep and fragrant, with a brightness of fruit not always obvious in this flagship. Coffee grounds and dark chocolate, studded with mint and hazelnuts. Fuller bodied with fine, gravelly tannins that give texture as much as definition. It needs more time but, wow, it will reward big time!



Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2018)

The 2018 The Tally Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is led in majority by Cabernet Sauvignon (92%), with the balance made up of Petit Verdot. The wine was matured in French oak for 15 months (40% new). This has all of the density of tannin one expects from premium Coonawarra Cabernet, along with lifted violets, fine mineral graphite characters and loads of blue fruits. It is very spicy and good, but svelte too. I love the chew through the finish. It is long and lean.



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