



DOMINIQUE PORTET

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## Dominique Portet 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon

**Winemaker:** Ben Portet

**Grape(s):** 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petite Verdot, 3% Malbec, 2% Cabernet Franc

**GI:** Yarra Valley

**Site(s):** Estate vineyards across Yarra Valley

**Vintage notes:** According to several influential Australian wine writers, 2017 was the Yarra's best vintage since the early 1990s. Moderate rainfall and mild temperatures through summer. Low yields and a long, warm late summer without any heat spikes.

**Vineyard notes:** The cabernet sauvignon comes from a mature Yarra Valley vineyard in Coldstream planted in soils of sandstone over clay. The remainder of the varieties in blend – petit verdot, malbec, cabernet franc come from our estate vineyard – also in Coldstream. Estate vineyards are farmed with soil health as top priority, with herbicides being eliminated in recent years, manual undervine cultivation, and the planting of cover crops.

**Winemaking:** The hand-picked grapes are sorted on the winery's state-of-the-art sorting line, then destemmed and gently crushed. The wine spends 25 days on skins to develop structure and a silky texture while still at peak freshness. It is aged in French oak (40% new) for 14 months and then blended after elevage.

**Closure:** Natural cork

**ABV:** 13.5%

**LEGEND tasting notes:** A brooding and heady nose of fresh blackberry, red plum, boysenberry, river mint, graphite, toasted spice, and worn leather. The palate begins with a cloud of silky (but not heavy) fruit, supported by refreshing acidity, long tannins, and sinewy texture. The balance is impeccable, creating a wine that is delicious and open on release, but has potential for long cellaring.

**Production size:** 700 dozen

**Scores:** 96 Points, James Halliday (AUS); 95 Points, Decanter