

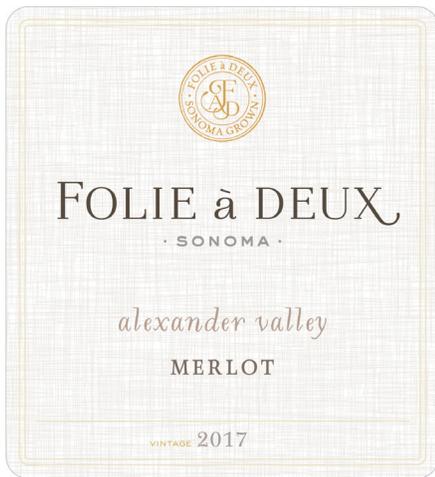


FOLIE à DEUX

· SONOMA ·

alexander valley MERLOT

VINTAGE 2017



COMPOSITION: 100% Merlot

APPELLATION: 100% Alexander Valley

HARVEST DATE:

September 8 – October 13, 2017

RELEASE DATE: July 2019

ALCOHOL: 13.9%

PH: 3.67

TA: 0.55 g/100ml

CASES PRODUCED: 11,000

APPELLATION

Grapes for the Folie à Deux 2017 Merlot are hand-picked from a selection of prime vineyards in the cooler parts of Alexander Valley. Nestled in northern Sonoma County, Alexander Valley AVA stretches 22 miles from Healdsburg to Cloverdale, following the meandering course of the Russian River. Along its heavily grveled bench lands and foothills lie some of California's supreme Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon vineyards, which benefit from the region's warm daytime temperatures, marine-cooled evenings and well-drained, volcanic hillside soils.

GROWING SEASON

2017 was a phenomenal vintage for Sonoma County. Harvest began slightly earlier after more welcomed winter rain and heat spikes than previous years. With temperatures remaining fairly cool into April, sunshine and warmer temperatures were welcomed in mid-May when flowering began. The pace quickly sped up in June and July with hot temperatures that hit the area. All in all, fruit quality was exceptional, achieving ample ripeness on every metric.

WINEMAKING

Following a 10-14 day maceration period, the lots are aged for 15 months in a combination of French American and Hungarian oak barrels (17% new). This wine is bright and varietally expressive.

TASTING NOTES

The Folie à Deux 2017 Alexander Valley Merlot has bright, enticing blackberry, ripe cherries, dried fig and tea aromas with notes of tasty oak on the nose. The vanilla, Cherrywood smoke, chocolate and black raspberry flavors are concentrated and focused on the palate. This wine is full-bodied and fleshy with balanced acidity and fine-grained cocoa powder tannins on the finish. The Folie à Deux 2017 Alexander Valley Merlot is inviting making it a perfect complement to most meat dishes, such as Mediterranean lamb burgers or a slow cooked roast beef.

"We admit it: we're in love with Sonoma County! Its incredible diversity makes it unique and provides us the rare opportunity to work with grapes from an amazing collection of superior appellations—from cool, coastal regions to warm, rugged mountain sites and everything in between. This broad array of distinctive growing conditions allows us to craft a portfolio of sustainable wines that captures the full range and beautifully expressive characteristics of Sonoma's world-class wine districts."