

vilafonté

Series M 2005

Silky & Complex

Its aromatics are open and inviting; black cherry jelly with dried flowers and hints of almond; definitely a variety, rather than a simple forward fruit. Series M 2005 has a smooth entry on the palate; very even weight for its whole length, and some 'fruit sweetness' in its middle and finish. Even some chewy milk chocolate notes. Distinctive and pleasant spice with dried herb aromatics, all-spice with a hint of cinnamon. Stylistically, it is the most concentrated Series M that Vilafonté has yet produced. The fruit intensity, combined with the Cabernet structure and sense of roundness and richness, promises that this will be a long ageing wine.

Re-tasted March 2020

Deep garnet in colour, opaque and developing a brick-red tinted rim. Initially tight, Series M 2005 required thirty minutes to open and become aromatically expressive. Opening with strawberry, red plum and black cherry preserve. Tertiary notes of all-spice, chopped walnut, tobacco smoke and cedar complement the layered fruit. The palate follows beautifully; silky-soft, mouth-watering core of high fruit intensity, fine chocolate tannins and fabulously persistent finish. Presently in a beautiful place, you may take pleasure in sharing a bottle now or savour for a further five to ten years of gracious mellowing, rewarding the patient collector.

The Vintage

The backbone of Merlot and Malbec, combined with the normally larger grapes of these varieties, are giving, in this vintage, a lush and accessible wine that has immediately pleased those who have tried it early after bottling. Much of our Merlot and Malbec harvest was cool with more humidity than normal; likely contributing to the pretty fruit characters of this vintage. At the same time, the 31% Cabernet in this Series lends weight and structure and makes this a more serious, complex wine than most Merlot style wines.

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The Blend

Eighteen months in thirty-four percent new French oak barrique,
with the balance in older French oak.

Series M 2005 consists of Merlot (fifty-three percent), Cabernet Sauvignon (thirty-one percent) and
Malbec (sixteen percent).

Fifty-three barrels were produced.

Zelma Long
April 2020

Chris de Vries
April 2020