

ULYSSES

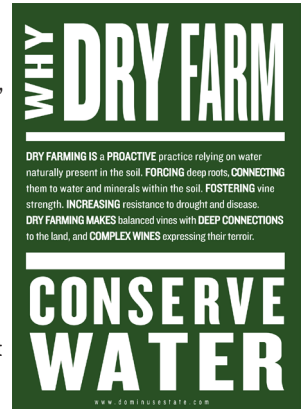
2018 OAKVILLE - NAPA VALLEY

"To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield." – Alfred Lord Tennyson, Ulysses

Ulysses is a Cabernet Sauvignon with a touch of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot produced from Ulysses Vineyard, Oakville, California. Steeped in history, ULYSSES Vineyard, part of the original 1800's Charles Hopper Ranch, was acquired in 2008 by Christian Moueix. Along the Napa Valley's Oakville bench and extending over an alluvial fan at the foot of the Mayacamas Range, the site is exceptional for winegrowing. The soil is composed of deep, gravelly, clay loam and is particularly well-suited to growing Cabernet Sauvignon.

Since the acquisition, Christian Moueix and his team have pursued an in-depth understanding of the soil and microclimate and have undertaken a lengthy and meticulous vineyard restoration. Dry farming, the foundation of Ulysses' sustainable farming practices, enhances root depth and resistance to drought, resulting in a wine that is a pure expression of its terroir.

Our team's intention is to produce a wine reflecting the exceptional potential and individuality of the Ulysses Vineyard. Our approach is minimalist, with attentive observation and restrained intervention. Harvested at perfect ripeness and with the utmost care, the grapes undergo both cluster and berry selection before a gentle vinification and aging.



Budbreak: April 3rd
Harvest End: October 15

Bloom: May 24th
Yields: 2.5–3.2 tons/acre

Veraison: Aug 4th
Bottling: May 2020

Harvest Start: Sept 26th
Cases Produced: 1300

WEATHER 2018: The 2018 season started late and harvest from September 26 - October 15 was 6 days later than our historical average. Seasonal rainfall was light (22" versus 31" annual average) and the beginning of summer remained consistently warm. In late summer, temperatures dropped below norms with morning fog in August and September. The fruit ripened slowly in the absence of heat spikes and harvest began with young vines of Cabernet Sauvignon. A storm system which brought 1.2" of rain on October 2 and 3 interrupted picking. Hot and very dry weather returned on October 5 and harvest continued with Cabernet Sauvignon on October 8, followed by Petit Verdot. We picked 57% of our fruit between October 8 – 15. The grapes were full and ripe and the resulting wines are deep, complex and well-articulated.

Winemaker's Notes: Notes of truffle, blackberries, cassis bud and tobacco with tight polished tannins. A vertical structure and persistent intensity.

Always there. Drinkable now, but will age wonderfully.

Jeb Dunnuck - 99 Points

Just about pure perfection and the finest wine I've tasted from this address.

The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon is mostly Cabernet Sauvignon yet includes smaller amounts of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, all from a site just north of Dominus. This deep, inky hued beauty offers up a beautiful, full-bodied, richly textured, and incredibly concentrated style that carries ample black and blue fruit as well as notes of crushed stone, scorched earth, graphite, and lead pencil. It has the focused, structured style of the 2018 vintage and is going to benefit from 4-6 years (if not a decade) of bottle age and will be a 30+ year wine.

James Suckling - 98 Points

#45 in the Top 100 Wines from the USA...

Aromas of terra cotta, chocolate and hazelnut with iron and ink. Dusty. Full-bodied and round. Layered. Flamboyant and juicy. Rather soft and gorgeous. Some walnut and chocolate at the end. Persistent.

Also:

Vinous-97 Points, Wine Advocate-96 Points, Wine Spectator-95 Points



Ulysses 2018 UPC #s

375ml	636595518370
750ml	636595518752
1.5L	636595518158
3.0L	636595518301
6.0L	636595518608

