



Girard

2019 GSM RED BLEND NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE NOTES

The year started out with ample rainfall which kept the soils moist and cool into spring. Summer was marked by warm, even daytime temperatures with few extreme heat spikes. The opportune weather conditions continued into late summer and fall. The harvest was of average volume, if not slightly below average and the fruit quality was exceptional, allowing us to craft wines with fresh brightness, texture, structure, and finesse.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Grenache and Mourvèdre were sourced from the Juliana Vineyard in the northeastern part of Napa Valley, perched on the backside of Howell Mountain. While a lesser-known area of the Napa Valley, we have long sourced fruit from here for its consistency and character year in and year out. The Syrah grapes for this Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre blend (“G.S.M.” for short) comes from the D’Ambrosio vineyard, which is situated in Yountville.

TASTING NOTES

The nose suggests black pepper, lively red fruits, and scents of toasted oak. On the palate, flavors of crushed raspberries, plum, and black cherry mingle with hints of black pepper, espresso, and cocoa. The medium-weight finish is lengthy and vibrant thanks to balanced acidity and crushed rock minerality.

ABOUT THIS WINE

Our “GSM” red blend draws inspiration from the historical blends of the Rhone River Valley of France. Historically in the Rhone, and in our bottling from Napa, the Mourvèdre offers heft and bold tannins, the Syrah offers color and structure, while the Grenache lends bright fruit and freshness to the blend; this is a wine that is greater than the sum of its parts. If pressed, winemaker Glenn Hugo will also admit that reds of the Rhone (particularly those of Châteauneuf-du-Pape) are some of his favorite wines, and a source of winemaking inspiration.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION 54% Grenache, 24% Syrah, 22% Mourvèdre

APPELLATION Napa Valley | **AGING** 16 months in French oak, 40% new

ALCOHOL 14.5% | **pH** 3.4 | **TA** 5.7 g/L | **RESIDUAL SUGAR** 1.1 g/L | **PRODUCTION** 390 cases