

Kiona 2018 ESTATE RED MOUNTAIN CABERNET FRANC

Let's get nerdy, shall we? Methoxypyrazines (pyrazines for short) are naturally found in high proportion in Bordeaux cultivars (mainly because they are all related - Cabernet Sauvignon is the offspring of Cabernet Franc and Sauvignon Blanc, for example). Depending on where and how the vines are grown, pyrazines can present in different ways and intensities; the spectrum can range from green/vegetal to savory/herbal.

The New-World approach to pyrazines emphasizes integrating them in a balanced way. Cabernet Franc has a propensity for a green pyrazine influence; it's our job to balance that aspect in the vineyard and winery. Think of Cabernet Franc's pyrazine profile as salt in a soup recipe. Too much, and it overwhelms the senses. Too little, and the soup lacks pizzaz.

Red Mountain's warm climate helps in this regard; pyrazines often present harshly in cooler climates. We can also mitigate the more polarizing aspects of overbearing pyrazine influence in the vineyard with aggressive pruning and canopy management.

GEOGRAPHICAL DESIGNATION //

100% Red Mountain AVA, 100% Estate Grown and Bottled

ESTATE VINEYARDS //

100% Kiona Estate

VARIETAL COMPOSITION //

83% Cabernet Franc, 17% Cabernet Sauvignon

WINEMAKING // Optical sorting, open-top fermenters, 2x daily punchdowns,

49% new oak equivalent, 88% free-run juice

BOTTLING INFORMATION // Bottled 03/2022, 408 12 x 750 mL cases

TA // 5.3 g/L **VA //** 0.76 g/L **GLU + FRU //** 0.17 g/L **ALC //** 15.6%

