

Kiona

2018 ESTATE RED MOUNTAIN HEART OF THE HILL MERLOT

Before this bottling, all of our Vineyard Series wines showcased Cabernet Sauvignon as the lead (or sole) blender. 2018 Heart of the Hill Merlot bucks that trend. Our winemaking teams holds a high opinion of Block 4 at Heart of the Hill, often pulling it aside as a cherished, high-end blending component for our Estate Bottled Red Mountain Reserve.

The time was right to showcase a few barrels of Block 4 Merlot as the headliner in a Heart of the Hill vineyard-designated blend. Heart of the Hill's reputation for producing powerful, tannic, concentrated, blue-fruited red wines holds true here; the wine stands in stark stylistic contrast to the mainline Kiona Merlot product, which features the older, softer, more delicate Merlot grown at the Kiona Estate vineyard.

Ripe, powerful, and tannic, this Merlot might surprise the drinker with its intensity.

GEOGRAPHICAL DESIGNATION //

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

VINEYARD COMPOSITION // 100% Heart of the Hill

VARIETAL COMPOSITION //

82% Merlot, 13.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4.5% Carmenère

WINEMAKING // Optical sorting, open-top fermenters, 2x daily punchdowns, 36% new oak equivalent, 100% free-run juice

BOTTLING INFORMATION // Bottled 05/2022, 275 12 x 750 mL cases

pH // 3.65 TA // 5.3 g/L VA // 0.65 g/L

GLU + FRU // 0.19 g/L ALC // 15%

ACCOLADES // 91 Points - Wine & Spirits, 90 Points - Sean Sullivan

