



LE DÉsir  
SONOMA COUNTY  
VINTAGE 2017

*Vérité Le Désir is a Cabernet Franc-based blend that exudes high-toned aromatics, an iron graphite core and a pronounced minerality. Inspired by the iconic wines of Saint-Émilion, Bordeaux, Le Désir redefines Cabernet Franc from the New World, with layers of concentrated fruit, exotic spice and a plush sueded texture. Vigneron Pierre Seillan tends to a mosaic of more than fifty micro-crus to produce the complex signature of Le Désir.*

TASTING NOTES

2017 vintage Le Désir has a deep-garnet purple color. Complex aromas of plums, cherries, blueberries and dried flowers are complemented by spice notes of cardamom and star anise. At the same time, powerful and yet beautifully elegant, firm fine-grained tannins and layers of fresh blue and red berry fruits provide a finish to the wine that has both persistence and depth. *Tasting Date: May 2020*

BARREL AGING: Aged 17 months in French oak with majority new oak

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN: 80% Cabernet Franc, 17% Merlot, 3% Malbec

APPELLATIONS: Alexander Valley, Bennett Valley, Chalk Hill, Knights Valley

ALCOHOL: 13.8%

ACCLAIM

98 Points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, May 2020

98+ Points - Jeb Dunnuck, *JebDunnuck.com*, May 2020

98 Points - James Suckling, *JamesSuckling.com*, May 2020

98 Points - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, April 2020

VIGNERON NOTES

2017 marked my 20<sup>th</sup> vintage crafting Vérité wines and my 50<sup>th</sup> vintage as a vigneron. In my opinion, this vintage is one of the five greatest Vérité releases to date.

The growing season began without incident – months of winter rains replenished groundwater and invigorated the vines, followed by mild spring and summer conditions. After a brief heat wave in early September, the weather cooled again allowing for ideal harvest conditions.

Picking began on September 2 and finished on October 2, one week before the disastrous Tubbs fire swept across Northern Sonoma County on October 8. Although this fire was one of the worst in California's history, both the Vérité estate and wines thankfully emerged unscathed. As such, our 2017 vintage lots were either resting in barrel or completing fermentation, avoiding any concerns of smoke taint.



*Pierre Seillan, Vigneron*