



The Wine Independent

“During my July visit, I tasted a complete vertical of Morlet Family Vineyards’ Cœur de Vallée.”

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW August 2022

MORLET *Family Vineyards*



2019 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON

98 POINTS

The 2019 'Cœur de Vallée' is deep garnet-purple colored. It gallops out with expressive notions of warm cassis, blackberry pie, and blueberry preserves, followed by hints of cedar chest, tilled soil, bay leaves, and iron ore. The full-bodied palate is taut, with a nice combination of bright crunchy black fruits and juicy blue fruits, supported by firm, grainy tannins and seamless freshness, finishing long and mineral-laced. The 'Cœur de Vallée' vineyard is in Oakville, just across the road from To Kalon, and is planted entirely to clone 4 with a small amount of Cabernet Franc (clone 1), which does well on the clay-loam soil. The 2019 blend is 94% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Cabernet Franc.

2018 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON

98 POINTS

The 2018 'Cœur de Vallée' is a blend of 97% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Cabernet Franc, all from the Estate vineyard in Oakville. Deep garnet-purple colored, it leaps with bright, vivacious crushed blackberries, black raspberries, and crushed blackcurrants scents, giving way to notes of roses, tilled soil, pencil shavings, and truffles. Medium to full-bodied, firm, finely grained, and refreshing, it is packed with bright, crunchy black fruits, finishing long and fragrant.

2017 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON

94 POINTS

The 2017 'Cœur de Vallée' is deep garnet-purple in color. Redcurrant jelly, stewed plums, and black cherry compote leap from the glass with hints of dried Provence herbs, tobacco leaf, and damp soil. Medium to full-bodied, it is firm and chewy with a great core of savory-laced black fruit flavors, finishing earthy. The blend is 95% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc coming from Morlet's Cœur de Vallée Vineyard in Oakville.

2016 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON

98 POINTS

Deep garnet colored, the 2016 'Cœur de Vallée' needs considerable swirling before it erupts with powerful black and blue berry notes - cassis, blueberries, and blackberry preserves - giving way to hints of mocha, licorice, and crushed rocks. Full-bodied, rich, velvety, and so, so concentrated, it has beautiful freshness, leading to a long, long, long finish on this beautiful wine. The blend is 87% Cabernet Sauvignon and 13% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2015 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 96 POINTS

The 2015 'Cœur de Vallée' is deep garnet colored. It flounces out of the glass with wonderfully gregarious scents of raspberry coulis, warm cassis, and crushed black cherries with touches of dried flowers, cinnamon toast, and camphor. Full-bodied, rich, and opulent in the mouth, with velvety tannins and soft acidity, it finishes long and showy. The blend is 95% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2014 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 96 POINTS

Deep garnet colored, the 2014 'Cœur de Vallée' comes bounding out of the glass with exuberant notes of plum preserves, crème de cassis, and Morello cherries, plus suggestions of licorice, rose oil, and tar. The full-bodied palate has firm, ripe, grainy tannins and compelling freshness supporting the generous fruit, finishing long and earthy. The blend is 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2013 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 97 POINTS

Deep garnet colored, the 2013 'Cœur de Vallée' needs a lot of coaxing to reveal notes of crème de cassis, blackberry pie, and spice cake, plus suggestions of cedar, cloves, and black truffles with a hint of potpourri. Full-bodied, rich, powerful, and plush, it coats the mouth with opulent spice and mineral notes, finishing long. The blend is 75% Cabernet Sauvignon and 25% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2012 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 96 POINTS

Deep garnet colored with a touch of brick, the 2012 'Cœur de Vallée' shoots out of the glass with notes of crème de cassis, Christmas pudding, and raspberry preserves with hints of mocha, unsmoked cigars, and spice box, plus a touch of dusty soil. The full-bodied palate is rich and spicy with a lively line and velvety tannins, finishing long and exotic. The blend is 75% Cabernet Sauvignon and 25% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2011 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 91 POINTS

The 2011 'Cœur de Vallée' is deep garnet-brick in color. It saunters out with ready-to-go notes of tobacco, leather, and cast-iron pan, leading to a core of fruitcake and dried figs. The medium-bodied palate is chewy, with just enough freshness and mature, savory fruit, finishing on a dried herbs note. The blend is 55% Cabernet Sauvignon and 45% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2010 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 96 POINTS

Deep garnet-brick in color, the 2010 'Cœur de Vallée' is a bit closed to begin, before launching into mature cigar box, fallen leaves, and spice box scents along with preserved plums and fruitcake notes plus a touch of Sichuan pepper. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is so lively and youthful, with vibrant black fruit supported by grainy tannins and finishing with a skip in its step. The blend is 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2009 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 97 POINTS

Deep garnet-brick in color, the 2009 'Cœur de Vallée' opens with notions of sauteed herbs, pencil lead, and smoked meats over chocolate-covered cherries, menthol, and blackcurrant cordial at the core. Full-bodied, rich, and spicy, the palate is jam packed with bright, youthful black fruits, framed by plush tannins, finishing long and lifted. The blend is 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2008 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 97 POINTS

The 2008 'Cœur de Vallée' is deep garnet-brick in color. It slowly unfurls to offer notes of raisin cake, prunes, and star anise with wafts of cigars, new leather, and dried herbs. The full-bodied palate has an impressive frame of grainy tannins and plenty of freshness supporting the evolved black fruits, finishing long with a peppery lift. The blend is 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.

2007 'CŒUR DE VALLÉE' CABERNET SAUVIGNON 96 POINTS

Deep garnet-brick in color, the 2007 'Cœur de Vallée' sings of charcuterie, tobacco leaf, and fig paste, leading to a core of blueberry preserves, crème de cassis, and Indian spices. The full-bodied palate has a lively backbone lifting the mature fruit and exotic spice layers, framed by powdery tannins, finishing long and opulent. The blend is 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Cabernet Franc coming from Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard.