



MORLET

Family Vineyards

2019

'CŒUR DE VALLÉE'



A First Great Growth in the heart of the Napa Valley



A SPECTACULAR SITE

The 'Cœur de Vallée' vineyard is situated in the world-renowned Oakville appellation, in the *heart* of the Napa Valley. The To Kalon Creek meanders through the spectacular property, which is planted to Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. The beautiful view of Mount Saint John is a reminder of the **alluvial fan** that provided the **well-draining soil**, comprised of **40 to 60% of gravel**. It is the confluence of the amazing pedigree of surrounding properties and the alluvial material originating from the Mayacamas Range that makes this vineyard so special. Handcrafted using classical winemaking techniques, this wine is named after its vineyard namesake. It is 'Heart of the Valley' or 'Cœur de Vallée.'



THE 2019 VINTAGE

The 2019 season started off with an abundance of rain, lasting well into the late spring. Bloom occurred under ideal conditions, which led to an excellent berry set. The vines and their crop developed strongly, with plenty of fruit requiring severe thinning. Foggy mornings and warm temperatures without extreme heat spells were followed by a cooler period with overcast skies. This brought a long yet steady ripening of the phenolics. The *élevage* confirmed this **unquestionably great vintage**; a fantastic and age-worthy wine.

WINEMAKER NOTES

"The exceptional 2019 'Cœur de Vallée' Cabernet Sauvignon is rich, creamy and full of finesse. The wine displays a **striking softness of the tannins** and an **intense and remarkably complex bouquet** of pot-pourri composed of red berries, Bing cherry and rose petals intermixed with earthy notes such as Foin de Crau. This is an **amazing, multi-dimensional wine!**"

Luc Morlet, May 2020



‘CŒUR DE VALLÉE’ 2019

Proprietary name	‘Cœur de Vallée’
Name meaning	Heart of the Valley
Varietal composition	Cabernet Sauvignon (94%) Cabernet Franc (6%)
Type of wine	Estate grown; terroir-driven; vineyard designated
Appellation	Oakville, Napa Valley
Vineyard singularity	Morlet Family ‘Cœur de Vallée’ Vineyard Alluvial soils alongside the To Kalon Creek; Bale soils; loamy topsoil on loamy & clay-loamy subsoils; consisting of 40-60% gravel
Farming	Organic & sustainable farming by full-time, year-round Morlet Farming team (<i>Organic Certification in progress</i>)
Harvest dates	October 3 - 15, 2019
Picking	Night pick; manual; small lugs; refrigerated truck
Sorting	Cluster-by-cluster & berry-per-berry by hand; Le Trieur™
Fermentation	Through native yeast; punch downs in stainless steel tanks & Darnajou French oak puncheons; Gyrobox™
Upbringing	16 months in French oak barrels from selected artisan coopers
Bottling	Unfined, unfiltered
Ideal cellaring	5 to 10 years after harvest date
Arc of aging	30+ years
Serving	61-64°F (16-18°C); Decant 1 hour prior to serving

98 Points

“Screaming ‘Napa’ but there’s something French about this too”

“Gloriously indulgent and screaming ‘Napa’, but there’s something French about this too. Great density and very fine-grained silky tannins give this a structured, architectural almost sculptural form. Spectacular, very elegant and refined.” *Colin Hay, The Drinks Business, Aug. 2022*

“Seamless freshness finishing long and mineral-laced”

“The 2019 ‘Cœur de Vallée’ 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, supported by firm, grainy tannins and seamless freshness, finishing long and mineral-laced.” *Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, The Wine Independent, Aug. 2022*

“Grand vin profond - un ensemble vraiment harmonieux”

“Grand vin profond, structuré par des tannins très soyeux et d’un ensemble vraiment harmonieux. Dès le premier coup de nez, le vin révèle une grande complexité. En bouche, il y a une impressionnante générosité, une profonde onctueuse, une allonge séveuse et mûre, riche en expression de fruit.” *Thierry Desseauve, Bettane+Desseauve En Magnum, Dec. 2024; Jan.-Feb. 2025*

“A full-bodied, concentrated, incredibly complex Oakville Cabernet”

“The 2019 ‘Cœur de Vallée’ offers lots of darker currant and black cherry fruits as well as notes of cedary spice, new leather, and dried herbs. These carry to a full-bodied, concentrated, incredibly complex Oakville Cabernet with sweet tannins, a great mid-palate, and one heck of a finish.”

Jeb Dunnuck, March 2022

