

WINE IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION

Donelan

DONELAN FAMILY WINES

2018 Bennett Valley
Cardiac Hill Syrah

98 Points Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*

The 2018 vintage is our second release of Cardiac Hill Syrah from the Jemrose Vineyard. From a winemaker's perspective, the 2018 vintage was wonderful. Mother Nature did not rush us. Instead, she gave us ample rain, no major heat spikes, and an unrushed harvest. In fact, 2018 was one of the longest harvests on record for Donelan Wines. It was David Milner's first vintage as Donelan Winemaker and his 2018 Cardiac Hill debuted at 98 points from *Vinous*, with Antonio Galloni describing it as one of the most impressive wines he has tasted from Donelan.

This Syrah continues to be just as balanced and brooding in its second release. It has an extremely expressive flavor profile. Aromas of blood orange, thyme, and sage give it a lovely herbal quality, with black cherry paste, plum sauce, and bouquet garnis bringing richness to the nose. On the palate, the 2018 Cardiac is fat and succulent with tannin that is more resolved and fine-grained than the 2017.

Open this wine a few hours before dinner to really allow it to smooth out and settle in. Enjoy it now through 2032.

Vineyard Notes:

Location

Tucked into Jemrose Vineyard, the small Cardiac Hill vineyard block earned its name because of the steep, rocky, north-facing slope it is planted to. The Estrella River selection of Syrah and the limited rocky soils yields some of the smallest and most flavorful Syrah fruit around.

Cellar Notes:

Percentage New Oak

42%

Composition

100% Syrah

Barrel Aging

22 months

Alcohol

14.7%

Bottling Date

July 2020

Production

107 cases

~70% Whole Cluster · Native Ferment/Native ML

