



## **2018 La Sirena Malbec** **Winemaker Notes/Fact Sheet**

Announcing a new release of Malbec from La Sirena! We are very excited to bring back this delicious and popular wine. I have made Malbec for various clients from time to time over my career, but it has always been as blending wine for Cabernet-based blends. Starting in 2013, I had the opportunity to buy a small amount of beautiful Malbec grapes from a nearby vineyard, and the result was so delicious I just had to bottle it on its own. The grapes came from our neighbors' vineyard, just over the Calistoga border in Knights Valley, which produces an excellent and unique expression of Malbec.

### **Just the Facts:**

Harvest Date: October 13, 2018

Blend: 98% Malbec from Knights Valley, Sonoma County AVA; 2% Cab Franc

Some Chemistry: 14.4% alc. T.A. 6.0, pH 3.79

100% French oak barrels 40% new for 22 months

Bottling date: June 23, 2020

Release date: Oct 8, 2021

Production: 234 cases

### **Tasting Notes: 2018 Malbec (tasted 10/7/21 by HPB)**

*The 2018 Malbec from La Sirena is a deep-hued blackberry color, with an enticing pure nose of dark fruit aromas (black plums and blackberries), accented with notes of tart dried cherry, cocoa powder, baking spice, mocha, and a touch of earth. Across the palate it is fruit-forward, lifted and lively, silky with barely-there tannins. It's soft yet dense, boasting concentrated ripeness without heavy weight – great balance in a streamlined profile with just a touch of French Oak. This is a wonderful example of American Malbec, with the complexity and depth we expect from the Knights Valley region of Sonoma County. It really expands over time in the glass, so make sure to take the time to enjoy this delicious journey!*

Why “La Sirena”? The name means “the Mermaid” in Spanish and Italian. I chose it because I’m a long time scuba diver and was looking for something fun and magical (like wine) to name the winery. The first vintage of La Sirena was 1994 with the first Cabernet Sauvignon made in 1996. Our current lineup of wines: **Cabernet Sauvignon**, **Chardonnay**, **Moscato Azul** (dry Muscat Canelli), **Rosato** (Rose of Primitivo), **Malbec**, and our blends, **Studio Series**, **Pirate TreasuRed**, **Art Bus**, and **Le Barrettag**. Production is always small, focusing on fine wines of purity and excellence - the best that can be made. Wishing you all the best!

Heidi Peterson Barrett

Winemaker/ Owner, La Sirena