



2018 Still Kraisey

Merlot

Mendocino

On September 13, 2018 staring down at 8.2 tons of Merlot, largely destined for *The Gallivanter*, Tracey was noshing on grapes with a sparkle in her eye. Jared immediately realized it would be well into September 14 before they went home to bed but the result meant the return of our "cult wine" Still Kraisey!

The 2018 is, of course, quite different than 2013, which some of you may have tasted. We are in a different vineyard and it was fermented in one of our handmade clay vats which made for a delicious and textured Merlot. With a mere 70 cases produced, we fully expect the cult wine status to remain, and will offer this wine exclusively to our members.

Appellation: Mendocino

Vineyard: Testa

Varietal: Merlot

Age: Planted 1995

Elevation: 1300 ft

Soil: Decomposed Sandstone & Pinnobie Loam

Harvested: September 13, 2018

Pressed: September 14, 2018

Fermentation: Wild yeasts & bacteria in clay

Aging: 4.5 months in clay

Bottled: February 19, 2019

Production: 70 cases

Release date: Summer 2019



Tasting Note:

The intriguingly soft, magenta color of this Merlot makes you want to jump right into the glass! It explodes with lively aromatics and a flavor profile of crushed red berries, shown off well by the contrast of ruby red grapefruit. Choosing to ferment in Italian clay has done this beauty well, providing round texture and depth to show off the approachable acidity.