



SANDAR & HEM

2018 SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS BORDEAUX BLEND

APPELLATION: Santa Cruz Mountains

SUBREGION: Multiple

VINEYARD: Multiple

VARIETY: 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc,
10% Cabernet Sauvignon

AGING: 18 months in French oak barrels (10% new)

CASES PRODUCED: 50

RELEASE DATE: Spring 2020

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Santa Cruz Mountains



2018

MERLOT 60%

CABERNET FRANC 30%

CABERNET SAUVIGNON 10%

THE VINEYARDS

The rich history of winegrowing in the Santa Cruz Mountains dates back to the 1800's, where America's first fine wines were pioneered on the rugged mountainsides and peaks of this cool, marine-influenced appellation. Traditional varieties of the Bordeaux region were among the first vines to be planted here, securing legendary status through wines hailing from a diverse range of geologies, microclimates, and exposures. This blend is driven by diverse varieties and sites, with origins ranging from Bates Ranch in the far southern reaches of the AVA, to Rene's Vineyard 30 miles north in the Los Altos Hills.

THE VINTAGE

A warm, dry winter gave way to a series of powerful storms, delivering substantial rainfall through the month of March. Cool, wet conditions continued through April and May, ideally delaying bloom until drier conditions prevailed. Consistently warm summer months produced evenly-ripened fruit across the AVA, leading into a mild September. This produced an ideal harvest season of high-quality fruit, allowing for precision in our choice of pick dates. An exceptional vintage in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

TASTING NOTES

The nose opens on aromas of Santa Rosa plums, dark cherries, graphite, and swells to a bouquet of lilac, black tea, mint, and balsam fir. Elegantly layered and well-balanced with fine tannins, the wine is graceful and svelte. A beautiful wine of purity and length that should drink well beyond a decade.