2018 SYRAH ROLL RANCH
VENTURA COUNTY

Here's another absolute gem from the cool 2018 vintage! Typically you find that our Syrah from Roll Ranch is an exuberant expression of the sunshine and warmth in the Upper Ojai Valley. That brawny and fruit-packed profile is a reliable attribute of Roll Ranch Syrah, but thanks to the mild summer and later harvest of 2018, you also find that core of the wine all enrobed in layers of cool-climate intrigue.

If you've followed this wine over the years, you'll be surprised when you open this bottling and find aromas of summer truffle, dark stony minerality, and even a hint of olive. It's deep and earthy at first, then with some air the high notes come forward, showing lifted scents of violets, dark rose and savory herbs that mingle with the sweet promise of dark stone fruits.

Per usual, the palate is rich and muscular. You find lots of impact with fresh flavors of black cherry, ripe blueberry, and crème de violette. That's all framed by earthy cocoa notes, peppery herbs, and a powerful structure of fine stemmy tannins and minerality. It's an especially pretty and beguiling example of Roll Ranch, with no shortage of power for this wine's ardent fans. Right now it's open after a couple hours in a decanter, but ideally it would be cellared through 2022. It will be stunning with some serious aging.

BLEND 98% Syrah, 2% Viognier
VINEYARDS Roll Ranch
AVA Ventura County
ALCOHOL 14.5%
VINIFICATION 73% whole cluster fermentation, pumped over
BARREL AGING 18 months in French Oak, 14% new
TOTAL PRODUCTION 324 Cases

PRESS REVIEWS

Jeb Dunnuck

"The 2018 Syrah Roll Ranch is also medium to full-bodied, with a ripe, rounded mouthfeel that conceals significant tannins and structure. This blue-fruited, peppery, floral Syrah is going to need 3-4 years in the cellar. It has a history of aging beautifully and I would be surprised to see it drinking well at age 15."
93 Points