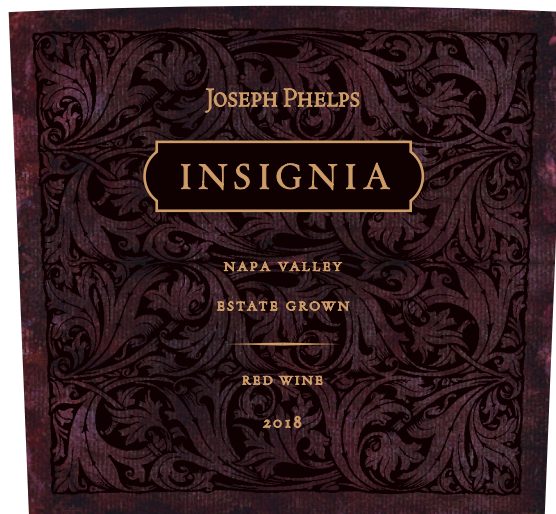


# JOSEPH PHELPS



## Joseph Phelps INSIGNIA, Napa Valley 2018

### Winemaking Data

**Blend:** 87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Petit Verdot, 3% Malbec and 2% Cabernet Franc from estate-grown Napa Valley vineyards: 30% Las Rocas Vineyard (Stags Leap District), 18% Suscol Vineyard (South Napa Valley), 18% Yountville Vineyard (Oak Knoll District), 14% Home Ranch Vineyard (St. Helena), 13% Banca Dorada Vineyard (Rutherford), and 7% Barboza Vineyard (Stags Leap District).

**Aging:** 24 months in 100% new French oak from coopers Taransaud, Dargaud Jaegle, Demptos, Marcel Cadet and Sylvain.

**Winemaking Notes:** The 2018 Insignia opens with beautifully perfumed floral, dark fruit, anise and cigar box aromatics. A wine of depth, elegance and finesse, the palate is fresh and focused with creamy texture and layers of blackberry, mocha and black cherry. The seamless tannin structure and balance culminate in an uplifting, lengthy finish.

**Growing Season:** The 2018 growing season in Napa Valley was marked by cool, mild weather. The cooler than normal spring delayed budbreak, bloom and veraison by two weeks compared to the previous five years. The mild weather patterns in August and September allowed for excellent overall phenological ripening and development of a complex aroma and flavor profile in the finished wines. Outstanding flavor development and color were key indicators of this exceptional vintage.

**Reviews:** 99 Points, “Blackberry and black chocolate with mint, conifer and clove. Sweet tobacco, violets and flowers, too. Some graphite. Cool and complex. Full-bodied with ultra-fine, dusty tannins and a wonderful, extremely long finish. Savory and refined. A classic-styled 2018. One of the best Insignias ever.” -*James Suckling, March 2021*

(96-98) Points, “Very deep garnet-purple in color, 2018 Insignia sings of fragrant lilacs, chocolate covered cherries, underbrush and charcuterie with a core of crushed black currants, black raspberries, chocolate box and red currant jelly. Medium bodied, the-palate is an exercise in finesse, with a wonderful showing of restrained black fruit and mineral flavors layers and wonderfully ripe, fine-grained tannins, finishing long and uplifting.” -*LPB, Robert Parker Wine Advocate, Oct. 2019*