

RAVINES

2015 Maximilien

ESTATE GROWN AND BOTTLED

Maximilien is our Bordeaux style blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. At Ravines, we are able to produce this wine in a classic, balanced and aged worthy style. As most wine regions tend to produce higher alcohol, jammy fruit, low acid and oaky wines from these grape varieties, the Finger Lakes present a refreshing alternative. While it requires taking risks in the vineyard, we are able to produce wines combining all of the assets of the Finger Lakes: intense fruit, nice acidity, moderate alcohol, soft texture and a broad palate of aromas.

Vinification

The grapes were all hand harvested and de-stemmed into open top fermenters. After starting as a whole berry fermentation, multiple daily punch-downs and pump-overs were conducted. The grapes were given three weeks of skin contact prior to pressing. At pressing, skins were hand bucketed out to leave behind most of the seeds and sediment and avoid sources of astringency. Malolactic fermentation took place in barrels for improved texture. The barrels used were 75% French oak and 25% Pennsylvania oak with 20% new oak overall. Prior to bottling, the wine received a slight filtration.

Appellation: Fingerlakes AVA, New York

Varietal Composition: 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Cabernet Franc, 17% Merlot

Alcohol: 13% **Acidity:** 5.9 g/l

RS: >2 g/l **pH:** 3.68

Vineyards

White Springs Vineyard & 16 Falls Vineyard

Growing these grape varieties in the Finger Lakes requires moderate yields (2-3 tons/acre) and great vineyard management techniques to allow the grapes to fully mature before harvesting at the end of the growing season. The 16 Falls vineyard has a lyre trellis system, which allows it to intercept 50% more sunlight than the traditional VSP trellis system. 2017 was a growing season with relatively high degree days providing a more traditional vintage in the Finger Lakes region. The Merlot was hand harvested mid-October and the Cabernets late October and early November under excellent conditions.

Tasting Notes

Showing depth, refinement, and impeccable balance in the tradition of Bordeaux. Black currant, plum, spice, earth and mineral notes play into the complexity and sophistication of this wine.

Produced and bottled by:

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