

DUCKHORN[®]

VINEYARDS

2022 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

Inspired after a visit to Bordeaux, Dan Duckhorn produced the first vintage of Duckhorn Vineyards Napa Valley Merlot in 1978. Highlighting Estate vineyards and top sites, our renown Merlot reflects the diversity of the valley's many appellations. Blending with Cabernet Sauvignon adds notable depth and structure, as well as signature flavors of black cherry, plum and spice.

VINTAGE NOTES

Winter and spring provided ample rain, which allowed the vines to set a generous crop with excellent canopies. Budbreak arrived a little over a week early, and we enjoyed warm, steady weather throughout spring and summer. We began picking Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc, and some Merlot as early as mid-August, but the first big push began after a Labor Day heat event, when our generous canopies paid dividends, helping shade the grapes. After a busy few weeks, a cool spell allowed the remaining grapes time to mature. To counter the impact of modest mid-September rains, we applied a careful fruit drop, and were equally diligent during sorting. Overall, harvest lasted eleven weeks, delivering wines with excellent concentration, supple tannins, lovely finesse and dynamic acidity.

WINEMAKING NOTES

This wine opens with an alluring nose of floral notes and dark red berries, characteristic of a quintessential Napa Valley Merlot. The palate is supple and polished with a seamless integration of fruit and tannin, enhanced by the inclusion of Cabernet Sauvignon and a hint of Cabernet Franc. The long, vibrant finish highlights meticulous craftsmanship and perfect balance.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	Napa Valley
SUB-APPELLATION	Oak Knoll, Carneros, Calistoga, Yountville, St. Helena
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Cabernet Franc
FERMENTATION & AGING	Aged 15 months in 100% French oak 40% new, 60% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.65
ACIDITY	0.56 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO

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