

DUCKHORN®

VINEYARDS

2021 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

Despite an unusually dry winter and warm spring, budbreak was delayed due to light rain in March. The overall lack of rainfall led to light clusters and small berries, which resulted in reduced yields and great concentration. Harvest began on August 5th with Semillon, and early heat generated a fast and furious first few weeks of picking. A much-needed mid-September cool-down allowed for sugars to realign with flavor development. Moderate temperatures continued throughout the rest of the season, providing additional hangtime for the grapes. Our last red grapes were harvested before the rains in late October, resulting in beautiful wines that are dense, pure and polished.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Crafted from both mountain and valley floor vineyards, this alluring wine embodies the rich diversity of great Napa Valley Merlot. From its velvety tannins and lively acidity to luxurious layers of plum, candied black cherry, red licorice and sweet baking spices this gracefully structured Merlot glides to a lush, lingering finish.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	Napa Valley
SUB-APPELLATION	Oak Knoll, Carneros, Calistoga, Howell Mountain, Atlas Peak
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	76% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Cabernet Franc
FERMENTATION & AGING	Aged 15 months in 100% French oak 40% new, 60% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.61
ACIDITY	0.60 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO

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