

DUCKHORN
VINEYARDS



2010 Napa Valley Merlot

Our Napa Valley Merlot is a complex blend of several individual vineyard lots, incorporating fruit from our Estate Vineyards and from top independent growers throughout the Napa Valley. The final wine is a rich and cohesive expression of the entire Napa Valley, reflecting the varied microclimates and soils of this unique appellation.

2010 Harvest Notes

Due to a wet spring and mild growing season the 2010 harvest started 2 weeks later than we would normally expect. Later, milder seasons tend to result in wines of fine elegance and balanced natural acidity. This is exactly what we see in our white wines and the best reds from superior locations. During harvest the conditions (a strong heat wave and then significant late rains), caused us to be very diligent in the vineyards fine tuning the fruit and making timely picking decisions. In the winery we took precautions to be respectful to the characteristics of the fruit and feel that has resulted in wines of character and intrigue.

Comments from the Winemaker

With firm tannins and exceptional length, this is a lovely and age-worthy wine that shows how much Merlot can excel in a cooler growing season. The aromas are rich and inviting with layers of amaretto, sweet spice and cedar. On the palate, lush flavors of plum, blackberry and cherry dominate, with the tannins adding structure and depth.

Varietal Content

90% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Cabernet Franc

Harvest Information

Appellation: Napa Valley

Harvest Dates: August 23 — November 3, 2010

Average Sugar at Harvest: 26.1° Brix

Cooperage

100% French Oak Château-style Barrels (60 Gallons)

Barrel Aging: 15 Months

Age of Barrels: 25% new, 75% second vintage

Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%

0.62 g/100 ml titratable acidity

10-12 days fermentation at 80°F

pH: 3.65

Bottled: April 2012

Release Date: November 2012

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DUCKHORN WINE COMPANY