

DUCKHORN
VINEYARDS



2013 Carneros Napa Valley Merlot

After falling in love with Merlot during a visit to Bordeaux, Dan Duckhorn started producing Duckhorn Vineyards Merlot in 1978. In the years since, grapes from the Napa portion of Carneros have played a pivotal role in our Napa Valley Merlot program. Influenced by the cooling effect of the Pacific Ocean, Carneros is ideally suited for growing exceptional Merlot, yielding a wine with beautiful structure, velvety texture and lovely layers of plum and mulberry.

2013 Harvest Notes

The 2013 harvest was early, even and excellent with all of our Estate fruit in the winery by October 10th. A warm dry spring brought an early bud break and created ideal conditions for flowering and fruit set. In the weeks after Labor Day, a moderate heat event followed by a period of perfect weather created a dream scenario for end-of-season ripening. Rain was not a factor, and for the second vintage in a row, the quality of the grapes was exceptional throughout Napa Valley.

Comments from the Winemaker

From its flavors of raspberry, Bing cherry, cranberry relish, cocoa nibs, red licorice and lavender to its velvety texture, this wine showcases all of the qualities that we prize in great Merlot from Carneros. Firm, yet giving, on the palate, with hints of Mission fig and fennel pollen, it is a compelling wine that languidly reveals itself in layers.

Varietal Content

100% Merlot

Harvest Information

Appellation: Napa Valley

Harvest Dates: September 27, 2013

Average Sugar at Harvest: 26.1° Brix

1 Vineyard Harvested

Cooperage

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

Barrel Aging: 15 Months

Age of Barrels: 50% new, 50% second vintage

Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%

0.57 g/100 ml titratable acidity

10-12 days fermentation at 80°F

pH: 3.53

Bottled: May 2015

Release Date: March 2016