

DUCKHORN[®]

VINEYARDS

2021 ATLAS PEAK NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

We produced our first Duckhorn Vineyards Merlot in 1978. In the years since, mountain-grown grapes have played an essential role in our Napa Valley Merlot program. Atlas Peak's temperatures can be as much as 10 degrees cooler than the valley floor, and its high-elevation vineyards are largely above the fog line. This results in long, even ripening that delivers exceptional Merlot vintage after vintage. Our Atlas Peak Merlot displays beautiful concentration with briar berry character alongside wild spice and herb notes.

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

This beautifully structured wine captures the depth and sophistication of great mountain-grown Merlot, offering luxurious aromas of dark plum, boysenberry and huckleberry. On the palate, firm mountain tannins add complexity to generous flavors of blackberry, black cherry, cocoa powder and rose petals as they build to a long, resonant finish.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	Napa Valley
SUB-APPELLATION	Atlas Peak
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	99% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon
FERMENTATION & AGING	Aged 16 months in 100% French oak 50% new, 50% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.66
ACIDITY	0.58 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO



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