

DUCKHORN®

VINEYARDS

2022 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

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

With fresh notes of blueberry and black plum, this Merlot is accented by hints of warm baking spice. It continues to impress, with a dense and lush texture supported by firm, polished tannins. It showcases the distinctive character of Atlas Peak, combining richness with structure and balanced acidity brought on by the porous volcanic soil for which the region is known.

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	3.71
ACIDITY	0.56 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO

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