

DUCKHORN®

VINEYARDS

2020 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.

VINTAGE NOTES

In terms of overall weather, most of the 2020 growing season was excellent. Following a relatively dry winter, budbreak started early, and the temperatures throughout spring and summer were mild and temperate. This allowed the grapes to ripen slowly, developing pure, vibrant flavors and supple, fleshy textures. In late September, harvest was impacted by the outbreak of wildfires and the arrival of hot weather. The elevated temperatures gave many vineyards a final push to ripeness as we worked to bring in the grapes. During this period, we did extensive testing to ensure quality, excluding any fruit that did not meet our standards. While our meticulous selection process resulted in a smaller 2020 crop, the wines we produced live up to the Duckhorn name, displaying beautiful aromas, soft elegant textures, lively complexity and lush flavors.

WINEMAKING NOTES

With tantalizing aromas of cranberry, pomegranate, Bing cherry and crushed rose petals, this alluring wine embodies the cool-climate essence of great Carneros Merlot. The vibrant red berry layers are echoed on the energetic palate, where they are framed by dusty, fine-grained tannins, with sophisticated hints of the sage, sweet tea and baking spices emerging throughout a long, resonant finish.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	Napa Valley
SUB-APPELLATION	Carneros
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	97% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon
FERMENTATION & AGING	Aged 16 months in 100% French oak 50% new, 50% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.54
ACIDITY	0.59 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO



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