

DUCKHORN®

VINEYARDS

2022 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

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

Capturing the rich essence of Napa Valley's Carneros region, this 100% Merlot is a stellar testament to the variety, shining with bright aromas of juicy black currants, black cherry and cranberry. Its vibrant character reveals subtle savory undertones leading to a long, mouthwatering finish that is the epitome of elegance.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	Napa Valley
SUB-APPELLATION	Carneros
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Merlot
FERMENTATION & AGING	Aged 16 months in 100% French oak 50% new, 50% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.55
ACIDITY	0.59 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO



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