

DUCKHORN®

VINEYARDS

2022 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT RECTOR CREEK VINEYARD

Established in 1976 by renowned vintners Margaret and Dan Duckhorn, Duckhorn Vineyards is an iconic Napa Valley winery deeply rooted in a rich legacy of tradition. With its cooling afternoon breeze combined with rocky alluvial soils, this estate Rector Creek Vineyard Merlot is a testament to the artistry and dedication that defines each vintage of our storied history.

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

This Merlot captures the generous dark red and blue fruit qualities for which our estate Rector Creek Vineyard is known. You are initially drawn in by aromas of ripe red raspberries and chocolate-covered strawberries, while subtle notes of sweet spices and violets add layers of intrigue and complexity. Round and supple on the palate, velvety tannins create a smooth texture alongside hints of red berries and the spiced accent of cocoa and figs.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	Napa Valley
VINEYARD	Rector Creek Vineyard
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% estate fruit 97% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon
FERMENTATION & AGING	Aged 18 months in 100% French oak 75% new, 25% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.75
ACIDITY	0.57 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO



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