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## ESTATE COLLECTION

NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

2019

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### TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: Napa Valley

**VARIETALS:**

97% Merlot, 3% Malbec

ALCOHOL: 15.5% by vol.

PH: 3.78

TA: 5.5 g/L

AGING: 18 months in 56%  
new French oak

BOTTLED: July 7, 2021  
unfined and unfiltered

PRODUCTION: 485 cases

### THE ESTATE COLLECTION

The Estate Collection is a series of limited-production wines available only at the Raymond Estate. Sourced from our finest estate vineyards and longtime vineyard partners, each wine represents our winemaking team's commitment to crafting wines worthy of our five generation winemaking legacy in Napa Valley.

### IN THE VINEYARD

The Merlot grapes for our Estate Collection Napa Valley wine were harvested from three vineyards. The Rutherford fruit gives structure and power, St. Helena fruit brings freshness and vibrancy to the wine while the fruit from Yountville adds texture.

### CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

After the grapes were hand-picked and sorted between September 25 and October 18, the wine spent an average of 49 days on the skins before being aged for 18 months in 56% new French oak. The tightly grained barrels provide textural complexity, added depth, and a plush, full body.

### WINE PROFILE

Cloaked in a profound shade of purple, this wine presents a symphony of dark fruit aromas complemented by subtle notes of mocha and baking spice. The palate, soft and velvety, unfolds layers of black cherry, boysenberry, raspberry, and a delicate touch of vanilla bean. Well-balanced with structured and juicy tannins, it boasts a full-bodied character supported by a foundation of good acidity. The culmination is a lingering and prolonged finish, a testament to the wine's enduring presence.