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## SMALL LOT COLLECTION

NAPA VALLEY MALBEC

**2021**

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### TECHNICAL NOTES

**APELLATION:** Napa Valley

**VARIETALS:**  
100% Malbec

**ALCOHOL:** 14.5% by vol.

**PH:** 3.65

**TA:** 6.5 g/L

**AGING:** 19 months in 26%  
new French oak

**BOTTLED:** July 24, 2023  
unfined and unfiltered

### 2021 VINTAGE

2021 was a smooth and uneventful harvest season. June started out warm, followed by a cool and foggy July and August that slowed ripening and caused nice retention of acidity. Even ripening, with no extreme heat events, made for ideal growing conditions. Sparse winter rains resulted in an early budbreak, evenly developed clusters, and smaller berries packed full of flavor. Overall, the fruit was exceptional, making it another amazing year for quality.

### IN THE VINEYARD

Our Small Lot Collection Malbec grapes come from our Rutherford Estate vineyard and from our vineyard in east Oakville both of which are farmed organically and biodynamically.

### CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

The fruit was hand-harvested on September 25 and October 5. The Malbec was pressed off at dryness and went through extended maceration for an average of 21 days on the skins.

### WINE PROFILE

A symphony of scents emerges with notes of Bing cherry, raspberry, and chocolate, accompanied by a subtle earthy undertone. This full-bodied wine parades a lavish palate, revealing the harmonious interplay of strawberry, mocha, toasted almond, and cassis flavors. Refined tannins showcase structural finesse, while well-integrated acidity adds a vibrant touch culminating in an elegantly prolonged finish.

