



SMALL LOT COLLECTION

NAPA VALLEY MERITAGE

2022



TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: Napa Valley

ALCOHOL: 15.0%

PH: 3.66

TA: 6.0 g/L

VARIETALS: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon,
10% Petite Verdot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Malbec,
15% Merlot

AGING: 18 months in 33% new French oak

BOTTLED: July 11, 2024
unfined and unfiltered

HARVEST DATE: September 12 - October 14, 2022

VEGAN FRIENDLY



ABOUT THE VINTAGE

The 2022 growing season produced exceptional fruit quality. After years of drought, substantial winter rainfall replenished the soil, followed by dry conditions through March. Spring ushered in mild, cooler temperatures, with bud break beginning in March. A week of triple-digit heat in September was tempered by mid-month rains, which slowed the harvest. The grapes that remained on the vine developed deep concentration and intense flavors, resulting in wines with remarkable structure and luxurious tannins.

IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes for this Meritage are grown in the famed Napa Valley appellation across nine vineyards. The Cabernet Sauvignon is grown in the cooler parts of Napa Valley, Stags leap, and Coombsville which allows them to get ripe without some of the excess heat as cooler climates bring out more of a savory note. The Cabernet Franc is from two vineyards on the east side of St. Helena and Oakville. The Petit Verdot is from our Rutherford vineyards providing texture and weight to tannins. The Malbec comes from our Raymond Estate and provides some gaminess and grip to the wine and our Merlot, also from our Oakville vineyard brings out the silkier, sweeter fruit of Merlot.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

The fruit was hand-harvested between September 12 to October 14. The grapes were pressed off and went through extended maceration for an average of 28 days on the skins then aged for 18 months in 33% new Taransaud and Ermitage French oak before being bottled on July 11th unfined and unfiltered.

WINE PROFILE

Draped in a regal deep violet, this wine opens with alluring aromas of Bing cherry, bright raspberry, and dark chocolate, touched by a hint of earth. The palate offers indulgent notes of ripe strawberry, silky mocha, toasted almond, and vibrant cassis. Fine tannins and balanced acidity create a seamless structure, leading to a graceful, lingering finish.