

# MERRYVALE

## VINEYARDS

### 2018 Merlot Napa Valley



#### Winemaking

Sourced largely from vineyards located in the southern Napa Valley, the fruit was hand-picked and hand-sorted with each vineyard fermented separately. Temperatures peaked at 88°F during fermentation and the wine underwent malolactic fermentation in barrel. The wine was aged 22 months in 100% French oak barrels (50% new). The wine was blended in spring of 2019 and bottled without fining or filtration the following June.

#### Vintage

Abundant rains early in the year were followed by lots of filtered light in spring and early summer. Both bud break and flowering occurred a bit late, but under ideal weather conditions, creating plentiful and even fruit set. Summer brought generous sun during the day and cooler marine influences, virtually uninterrupted by major heat spikes. The relatively mild summer followed by extended fall sunshine and moderate heat created near-ideal conditions for winemakers to allow their fruit to accumulate flavor complexity with gradual increases in sugar levels.

#### Tasting Notes

Our Merlot is an occasion to showcase some of the best cool climate terroirs of Napa Valley. The fruit is drawn primarily from the volcanic soils of Coombsville and Carneros in southern Napa where Merlot is at its best—soft, dark, spicy and fragrant. The wine opens with notes of mocha and spices typical of Merlot. The aroma is true to the varietal with tones of blackberries, earth and flowers. The mouthfeel is very ample, with soft texture, a fresh mid-palate, and finishes with very soft and gentle tannins. This wine is very approachable thanks to a beautiful acidity and texture—a wine for wine lovers that look for complexity and fragrance.

Appellation:	Napa Valley
Blend:	97% Merlot, 1.5% Malbec, 1.5% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyards:	Truchard, Farella, Stagecoach and Profile Estate
Cooperage:	50% new French oak barrels for 22 months
Alc:	14.7%
PH:	3.64
TA:	5.4 g/L

EST. 1983

