

2019 MERLOT



Origin: Estate grown, Atlas Peak District of Napa Valley

Vintage: 2019

Blend: 89% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 1% Cabernet Franc

Alcohol: 14.5%

Tasting Notes: Full bodied with tremendous depth, richness, and intensity. The aromas are expressive of black-berry jam, chocolate, and licorice, and the flavors are vibrant and remarkably pure from start to its long finish.

Vintage Notes

Spring saw minimal frost risk after budbreak, but unseasonal rainfall in late spring.

Summer was temperate, with cool nights and warm days setting the stage for deep, rich Merlot.

Temperatures remained warm up to harvest, which helped the grapes ripen fully with exceptional varietal flavors.

Vineyard

The Merlot vineyard is located in the lower northwest corner of the Townsend Vineyard, on the very edge of Rector Canyon.

The vineyard's soil composition is the volcanic soil series that is common in the mountainside of Atlas Peak - Boomer Gravelly Loam.

The vines were planted in 1999 to Merlot clone 181, which was brought to the Napa Valley from ENTAV, the French Grapevine Research Authority.

Vinification

The grapes were harvested from the west-facing vineyard block T3ME in the cool morning hours of October 13 and immediately taken to the estate.

After destemming and sorting the fruit, the whole berries were placed in stainless steel tanks for an initial five-day cold soak followed by a 12-day fermentation with punch-downs to enhance the color, flavor, and tannins in the young wine.

The new wine was removed from the skins and pumped into French oak barrels where it went through malolactic fermentation.

After 14 months in the barrel, the wine was tasted, and the final selections made.

The resulting wine is full bodied with tremendous depth, richness, and intensity.

Antica

NAPA VALLEY

ANTINORI FAMILY ESTATE