

GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

NAPA VALLEY



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Alcohol.....14.5% by volume
Fermentation ...indigenous yeast;
Skin contact2 weeks in stainless steel
Harvest dateOctober 8-23, 2019
Sugar.....24.2° Brix (average)
Bottling date ...July 2021
Release dateNovember 2022
Total acid5.8 g/L
pH3.68
Time in oak.....20 months
Type of oak.....French oak; 60-gallon barrels; 37% new; 63% neutral
Blend.....89% Merlot
6% Cabernet Sauvignon
3% Petit Verdot
2% Cabernet Franc
Production.....4,197 cases (12/750 ml.)

2019 MERLOT

ESTATE GROWN • NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE: Napa Valley experienced an above-average rainfall in the early months of 2019 with over 50 inches of rain in Rutherford. The residual moisture and colder than average soils led to a delayed start in budbreak. Spring and summer enjoyed moderate temperatures with no significant heat spikes until August. The harvest began in early September and finished the first week of November.

VINEYARD: Our Merlot grows both in our cooler American Canyon and Carneros vineyards and in our warmer Yountville vineyard. We blended Merlot from all three vineyards to create a balanced, complex wine that combines the richness and depth from the warmer climates and perfume and bright fruitiness from the cooler climates. We farm all of our certified organic vineyards naturally, using the principles of regenerative agriculture.

THE WINE: This exquisite, sophisticated Merlot begins with aromas of dark cherry, raspberry and sweet ripe tomato supported by floral undertones of lilies, violets and fallen leaves. The tannins have an elegant density with a softness that is supported by fresh red fruit acidity and hints of basil. The finish is long and substantial with a hint of spice. It pairs well with Mushroom Galette and Coq au Vin.