

Cakebread Cellars

NAPA VALLEY
Since 1973

2022 MERLOT NAPA VALLEY

The soft and fruit-forward 2022 Merlot shows deep aromas of blackberry, black cherry, ripe plum, and mocha. The wine is full bodied with finely knit tannins that develop into notes of toast and oak. Bright acidity and refined tannins provide ample structure for the rich, mineral-driven, dark chocolate finish.

VINEYARDS & VINTAGE

The 2022 Merlot comes from vineyards across Napa Valley, including our Suscol Springs Ranch in the cool southeastern reaches of Napa and our warm valley floor vineyard in Rutherford. Each vineyard contributes a layer of aromatic and flavor nuance to the final wine, allowing us to create a multi-dimensional Merlot that highlights the variety's best qualities: deep fruit flavors, a plush texture, bright acidity, and elegant tannins.

The 2022 season was mild and even, with summer days characterized by moderate heat and steady ripening. Drought conditions persisted across Napa Valley, which allowed vines to naturally control their vigor and yields – resulting in concentrated flavors and aromas.

WINEMAKING

As each vineyard site reached perfect ripeness, it was harvested overnight to maintain the grapes' vibrant acidity and fresh fruit flavors. Each lot was fermented separately before aging in French oak barrels. In July of 2023, the component lots were tasted and blended to create a Merlot offering a harmony of fruit flavor and refined structure. After blending, the final wine was returned to barrels to ensure an ideal integration of toast and oak structure with fruit flavor and rich aromatics. Overall, the Merlot spent 17 months in French oak, of which 40% was new.



GRAPE VARIETY

100% Merlot

VINEYARDS

100% Napa Valley

HARVEST DATES

September 1 – September 23, 2022

WINEMAKER

Stephanie Jacobs

NOTES

ALCOHOL 14.7%

ACIDITY 0.58G/100 ml

PH 3.66

BOTTLE April 2024

AGING Aged 17 months in 40% new French oak, 60% neutral French oak

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