



2012 MERLOT MT. VEEDER, NAPA VALLEY

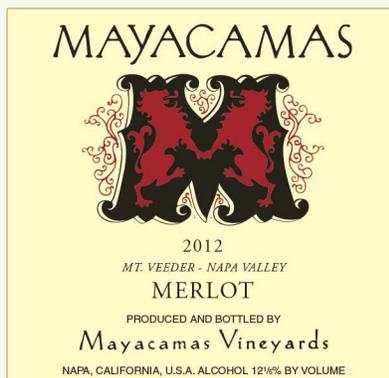
High on the slopes of Mount Veeder, Mayacamas Vineyards has been a source of legendary California wine since 1889. Since the 1950's the vinification and *élevage* of Mayacamas remains remarkably consistent and our continued commitment to employ classical techniques and tools is integral to the character of these wines. The mountain terroir at Mayacamas ranges from 1,800 to 2,400 feet in elevation and the estate spans 475 acres, only 50 of which are dedicated to vine. The region's richly intense, age-worthy wines reflect the independent spirit of its mountain growers and vintners, borne of rugged conditions that demand craftsmanship at the highest level.

TASTING NOTES

Mayacamas Merlot remains one of the purest expressions of the varietal produced in America today - always made with restraint to express the more serious side of the grape. In the glass, the nose explodes with macerated raspberries, fresh cherry, green cardamom and anise. Sleek and structured, the palate shows juicy berry, pomegranate, fresh thyme and tarragon. As is typical with this bottling, Mayacamas Merlot generous both in texture and acidity. After fermentation in cement tanks, the 2012 Merlot spent 24 months in neutral oak – a combination of large-format foudres and used barrique – before bottling.

VINEYARDS & TERROIR

2012 Mayacamas Merlot was sourced entirely from dry-farmed vineyard sites on our Estate high on Mount Veeder. Mount Veeder is a one-of-a-kind appellation with a cooler mountain climate and the lowest yields in Napa Valley. Soils range from poor volcanic deposits to ancient seabeds; the grapes produced here retain high acidity and a clean, mineral character. The mountain terroir at Mayacamas ranges from 1,800 to 2,400 feet in elevation, with most blocks oriented West or South to ensure ideal ripening. The grapes utilized in the 2012 Merlot were sourced from blocks with an average age of approximately 30 years.



VARIETAL 100% Merlot
APPELLATION Napa Valley
ALCOHOL 12 1/2%