

## 2020 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.

WINEMAKING

The 2020 Merlot was harvested by hand in late September, cluster sorted, destemmed, and pressed. The wine was fermented in stainless-steel (70%), concrete (20%), and 500L oak puncheon (10%). Aged in neutral French oak Foudre (12 months) and 225L barrel (8 months). The blend composition is 75% Merlot and 25% Cabernet Franc.

## TASTING NOTES

The wine opens with lifted aromatics of violet and cacao supported by a lovely fruit set of raspberry, plum, wild blueberry. Savory tones of dried tobacco, thyme, and graphite broaden the mid-palate, bringing detail and nuance to the wine's full body frame. The finish is persistent with lingering notes of berry fruit, cedar, and black tea.

APPELLATION: Mt. Veeder VARIETALS: 75% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc ALCOHOL: 14%

