

## 2022 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 2022 was harvested by hand in from late August until mid September, cluster sorted, destemmed, and pressed. The Merlot was fermented in concrete (35%), and stainless steel (65%) while the Cabernet Franc, at 24% of the final blend, was fermented in open top neutral oak puncheon. After fermentation both the Merlot and Cabernet Franc were aged in neutral French oak for 10 months before bottling on May 1, 2024.

## TASTING NOTES

The 2022 Merlot initiates the palate with a great deal of immediate appeal as it is soft and elegant. Engaging aromatics of lilac and lavender on the nose. Red and dark berry fruit permeates the front of the palate with generosity followed by a mid-palate structure with savory tones of tobacco, anise, and cedar. Lingering and long on the back palate.

APPELLATION: Mt. Veeder VARIETALS: 76% Merlot, 24% Cabernet Franc ALCOHOL: 14%

