

Decker

Napa Valley Merlot 1999

Fruit for this wine was grown on two Napa Valley ranches. The first layer of elegance and structure comes from a Ruthéford, bench-land, vineyard. The Ruthéford section of Napa Valley is largely considered the best location to bring out soft tannins and silky texture. The balance of the wine was grown high atop Atlas Peak in the east valley. The thin volcanic soils provide a place for the vine to struggle and obtain perfect ripeness with full concentration of flavor.

Grapes were hand-harvested in 1999 at optimal ripeness. We pick by flavor and texture and then confirm the Brix ripeness. The wines were stainless steel fermented and underwent extended maceration to bond complex tannin structure. Free run wine was then barrel aged for 22 months in predominantly French cooperage.



Tasting Notes

Forward fruit flavors of fresh plum, currant and blackberry start the wine over the pallet. A haunting aromatic of lavender and violet add complexity. The mid pallet sensation is lush with cherry and integrated vanilla notes from artisan use of oak. The wine finishes with a seamless elegance and structure. The 1999 Vintage for Napa Valley Merlot is a classic.

Enjoy with grilled meats, stews, pasta or aged cheese. And as always invite your friends and family to share in your gracious company.