



CINNABAR
WINERY

Vineyards

Summer's Ranch Vineyard
Denice Vineyard

Wine Analysis

Content: 100% Merlot
Alcohol: 14.9% pH: 3.60
Acidity: 0.64g/100ml
Production: 105 cases
Bottling Date: Aug 24, 2023
Release Date: Aug 15, 2024



2021 MERLOT Central Coast

Vintner Ron Mosley

Winemaker Alejandro Aldama

Tasting Notes

Delightful aromas of blackberry, dark chocolate, wet stone, and intense floral aromas. Structured velvety tannins, and a long creamy finish. Pairs well with broiled ribeye steaks, meaty stews, and beef burgers.

The Magic

The grapes were cold soaked for 3 days. Fermented for 10 days in open top fermenters, then racked into French Oak barrels for maturation. 22 months in French Oak, 50% new, 50% 1 year old.

The Grape

Merlot, originating from the renowned Bordeaux region in southwest France, is celebrated as its most widely cultivated grape. This versatile varietal shines at both entry-level and premium tiers. An entry-level Merlot typically offers an unoaked, straightforward profile with youthful, approachable, and fruit-forward flavors. However, Merlot is equally capable of reaching impressive heights. In the prestigious vineyards of Saint-Emilion and Pomerol, Merlot forms the backbone of some of the world's most complex, age-worthy, and highly sought-after wines. Our 2021 Merlot captures this remarkable duality, providing both immediate drinkability and the potential for graceful aging.

The Land

This Merlot is sourced from two distinct vineyards in the Santa Clara Valley. Denice Ranch is located on the west side of the Santa Clara Valley, at the base of the foothills. The soil is fertile and well drained. The vineyard reflects the site with a perfect balance between fruit and the canopy. The Summer's Ranch Vineyard is located on the valley floor on Dryden Avenue in Gilroy at the base of the Diablo Mountain range. The vineyard has 2 acres of Merlot on a quadrilateral trellis system.

The Season

The year began with sunny skies and a warm spring. With the continuing drought, the vineyards were challenged. The vines response was to produce fewer clusters, and smaller berries, thus reduced yields. The silver lining was while the crop was down, the concentration was amazing. The small berries were packed with color, flavor, and excellent tannins. The Fall was perfect to take these berries to full ripeness with intensity. Overall, an excellent vintage!