

# CHATEAU ST JEAN

## 2021 MOONLIGHT MALBEC

RESERVE

SONOMA COUNTY

Our roots are in Sonoma County. We have made wines from the region's diverse vineyards for over 50 years, starting in 1973. A fine wine estate with European style, we are proud to produce balanced and elegant wines, a hallmark of Chateau St. Jean. Our single-vineyard and blend expressions celebrate Sonoma County's distinctive, world-class growing region, and the special vineyard sites in which our grapes are grown.

### VINEYARDS

Each vintage, we seek out the best Malbec grapes from vineyards throughout Sonoma County to develop a wine that is expressive, deep and complex. We select vineyards based on their ability to showcase the terroir of that. For this vintage, we selected grapes from Knights Valley (63%), Sonoma Valley (35%) and Alexander Valley (2%).

### VINTAGE

2021 was a perfect ripening vintage in Sonoma County. With mild winter and spring temperatures, budbreak was ahead of average. Summer was warm and dry, with above average temperatures in August and September, leading to an early and fast ripening harvest. The warm weather resulted in ripe fruit flavors and one of the earliest starts of harvest in recent history.

### WINEMAKING

The grapes arrive at the winery in the cool, early morning hours preserving optimal freshness and quality. After destemming, crushing, and a two-day cold-soak, the juice is inoculated and warm-fermented to dryness. After primary fermentation is complete, the wine is pressed off skins with a small amount of press going to tank for settling and then is racked to 50% new French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation and 18 months of aging. The wine was bottled September 5, 2023.

### TASTING NOTES

Ripe aromas of blackberry and black raspberry are accented by nuanced vanilla and floral notes. Abundant fresh dark berry flavors fill the palate providing a dense, and generously juicy mouth-coating texture. Serve with grilled vegetables, pasta with vodka sauce, or flank steak with chimichurri sauce. This wine will continue to evolve in bottle for 6-8 year with proper cellaring.

2021

APPELLATION	Sonoma County
VARIETAL	84% Malbec, 16% Merlot
OAK	100% French oak, 50% new
AGING	18 months
ALCOHOL	14.9%
T.A.	5.75 g/L
PH	3.71