

SWANSON

VINEYARDS

2023 MERLOT

NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE

The 2023 grape harvest in Napa Valley is being celebrated as one of the most exceptional vintages in recent memory. A combination of favorable weather conditions and meticulous vineyard management contributed to the outstanding quality of the grapes. The season began with higher-than-average rainfall during winter and spring, replenishing soil moisture and leading to a successful bloom. Cooler spring temperatures delayed the growing season by 10-14 days compared to 2022, but the mild summer weather, with temperatures ranging from 72-75°F, allowed for extended hang-time. This prolonged ripening period enabled grapes to develop deep color, concentrated flavors, and balanced acidity.

VINEYARD

The fruit for the 2023 Merlot was harvested from three Napa vineyards: Mt. George (Coombsville), Foley Johnson, and Magnolia.

WINEMAKING

These grapes were hand harvested in the early morning. Once brought to the winery they were destemmed to a stainless steel tank and underwent a 2-day cold soak. The wine was then inoculated with yeast and received daily pump-overs during fermentation. Once fermentation was complete the tank was pressed and racked to barrel. In barrel, the wine underwent malolactic fermentation and then aged for 16 months.

TASTING NOTES

The 2023 Napa Merlot offers a bright entry with wet earth notes highlighted by red cherry, plum, herb and coco characters. The medium-body profile finishes long with a hint of chocolate. This is an approachable wine that is easy to enjoy with a variety of cuisine - we recommend a juicy hamburger.

COMPOSITION

96% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon,
1% Malbec

BOTTLING DATE

June 5, 2025

BARREL REGIME

18 months in French oak, 35% new

CASE PRODUCTION

1,530

