

CHATEAU ST JEAN

2023 MERLOT

SONOMA COUNTY

CALIFORNIA

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

The fruit for this wine comes primarily (90%) from our vineyards located just a few blocks from the town square in Sonoma. The soils at this site are volcanic, rocky, low fertility and well draining, with a climate that is warm enough to fully ripen Bordeaux varietals, but cool enough to retain balance and acidity. The remaining 10% of the blend is Malbec from Magnolia Ranch in Dry Creek Valley.

VINTAGE

The 2023 growing season graced us with the slowest start in the last decade. A rainy winter set the vines up for vigorous spring growth, a larger crop, and a longer ripening season. Red and white varietals ripened simultaneously leading to a late, compressed harvest. The crop was bountiful and the quality outstanding.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were crushed, destemmed, and fermented for 10 days on skins. The juice was then drained, pressed, and barreled down to 57% new French oak for 18 months of aging.

TASTING NOTES

This wine is loaded with brambly ripe berry, subtle crushed rose petal, vanilla, and caramel. The palate is creamy and plush - bursting with rich berries and dark cherry framed by sweet oak, vanilla, caramel, and a touch of baking spice. Supple, integrated tannins create an elegant and elongated finish. Pair with aged cheddar with crostini or veal marsala.

2023

APPELLATION

Sonoma County

VARIETAL

80% Merlot, 9% Malbec, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Syrah, 2% Petit Verdot

OAK

100% French oak, 57% new

AGING

18 months

ALCOHOL

14.5%

T.A.

5.7 g/L

pH

3.57

