

SEBASTIANI

VINEYARDS & WINERY



2020

MERLOT

ALEXANDER VALLEY

MARK BEAMAN, WINEMAKER

TECHNICAL DETAILS

APPELLATION

Alexander Valley

COMPOSITION

78% Merlot,
22% Cabernet Sauvignon

COOPERAGE

22 months in 28% new French
and 9% new Hungarian oak

ALCOHOL

15.0%

TA

6.08 g/L

pH

3.48

BOTTLING DATE

August 18, 2022

VINEYARDS

The Alexander Valley is located north of the town of Healdsburg in Sonoma County. It is one of the warmer AVAs in the region making it the perfect spot for red Bordeaux grapes. The majority of the fruit for our 2020 Merlot comes from the Eco Terreno Vineyard in the Alexander Valley. The fruit comes from well drained, alluvial soils located next to the Russian River in the northern Alexander Valley. This adds concentration and distinct minerality notes.

VINTAGE

The 2020 season started off with immense potential with mild spring weather which led to bud break occurring about two weeks earlier than average. Fruit set was balanced to light in most varietals promising good concentration within the fruit. A warm to hot summer kept grapes ripening right up to harvest where careful selection of picks and gentle processing were key for success.

WINEMAKING

After a three-day cold soak, we crushed and fermented the grapes in a combination of stainless steel tanks and oak barrels. After pressing, each lot was blended depending on flavor, color and tannin concentration. The wine was aged for 22 months in new and used French and Hungarian oak barrels.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Upon opening, aromas of blackberry and plum cobbler mingle seamlessly with notes of allspice, and dried bay leaf. The palate offers supple, but firm tannins, providing structure to layers of juicy flavors and hints of spice. Serve with Waygu beef carpaccio, short rib tacos, or braised lamb shank.

-Mark Beaman, *Winemaker*