



# SWANSON

## VINEYARDS

SALON WINE SELECTION

**2021 MERLOT**

NAPA VALLEY

### VINTAGE

2021 started off gently with sunny skies and a warm spring. But as the spring wore on with little rain, it became clear that 2021 would be a drought year. As the dry but beautifully sunny summer continued, winemakers prepared for a lightened crop load, and the valley drifted into a beautiful fall as the weather ended perfectly. The grapes were harvested in perfect condition leading to another great Napa Valley vintage showcasing wines with powerful and intense flavor.

### WINEMAKING

The grapes were hand harvested in the early morning hours. 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 pumped over daily throughout fermentation. Once primary fermentation was complete, the tank was pressed and racked to French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation and 18 months of aging.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2021 Salon Wine Selection Merlot is reminiscent of cozy fall days. On the nose, there are sultry aromas of wet earth, dark cherry, plum, autumn leaves, mushroom, vanilla, white pepper, and seasonal fresh flowers. The entry is bright with medium-weight and a beautifully textured finish.

### TECHNICAL NOTES

**Varietal Composition:** 100% Merlot

**Bottling Date:** July 11, 2023

**Barrel Regime:** 18 months in French oak, 40% new

**TA:** 6.23 g/L    **pH:** 3.82    **Alcohol:** 14.5%