

CHATEAU ST JEAN

2022 RESERVE MAGNOLIA MERLOT

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

This is a mix of Town and Country, Urban and Suburban. The Sebastiani Town Blocks are just a few blocks away from the Sonoma Town Square with old(er) Merlot vines planted in 1990. The Knights Valley Merlot, planted in 1991, are on a steep, rugged patch of Lookout Mountain/Anderson Ranch situated at around 1,000 feet in elevation, far from civilization. The small bit of Howell Mountain Merlot comes from Bancroft Vineyard also at higher elevation and planted in volcanic well-draining soils.

VINTAGE

Minimal rainfall and mild temperatures contributed to drought-like conditions in Sonoma County. With a warmer than average winter and spring, budbreak was two weeks ahead of average. The summer was warm and dry with a few short heat spikes, resulting in long hang-time and beautifully ripened fruit.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were destemmed and crushed to tank for a two-day cold soak prior to inoculation and a warm ferment to dryness. The wine was pressed off skins with a small amount of press going to tank for settling and then racking to new and used French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation. After 18 months of aging, the wine was filtered and bottled.

TASTING NOTES

The 2022 Reserve Magnolia Merlot opens with juicy aromas of plum, black raspberry, and caramel. The palate is round and lush with ripe black cherry coupled with sweet oak, vanilla, and baking spice. Integrated tannins carry the wine through a long, smooth finish. Serve with mushroom stuffed ravioli, coq au vin, or cassoulet.

2022

APPELLATION	Sonoma County
VARIETAL	90% Merlot, 10% Malbec
OAK	100% French oak, 57% new
AGING	18 months
ALCOHOL	14.5%
T.A.	5.7 g/L
PH	3.57

