



*With more than 40 years of winemaking heritage in California's most fabled wine region, Napa Cellars embodies the classic, unmistakable style of Napa. Veteran winemaker Joe Shirley crafts our wines from estate vineyards and coveted partner sites. Meticulous care in the vineyard, coupled with gentle winemaking techniques, ensures our wine reflects the quality and richness of the vineyard's terroir.*

#### VINEYARDS

Grapes for the 2020 Napa Cellars Merlot are primarily sourced from Bayview Red Hen Vineyard in the Oak Knoll district of Napa Valley. This region is ideal for cultivating Merlot grapes, with moderate to cool climates that support an extended growing season, resulting in an elegant, complex, and balanced wine.

#### HARVEST

The 2020 growing season started with a warm, dry winter with no typical rain or cold weather until the end of March. Overall rainfall was 50% of normal. The mild winter and spring translated to an early start. Berries were small, with concentrated flavor and tannins. The vineyards included in this wine produced fantastic results that were typical of a low yielding vintage.

#### WINEMAKING

Once harvested, the grapes underwent a 12 to 13 day maceration period and were fermented using the délestage method. This process allows the winemaker to extract color and flavor from the skins. After the fermentation process was completed, the wine was aged for 20 months in 100% French oak barrels, 39% of which were new.

#### WINEMAKER NOTES

Napa Cellars Merlot boasts aromas of dark fruit, plum, and dried herbs. Flavors of black plum and blackberry are complimented by toffee and mocha notes. This medium-bodied wine showcases bright and balanced acidity with firm tannins and a long finish.

APPELLATION: Napa County

COMPOSITION: 100% Merlot

AGING: 20 Months, 39% New Oak  
(100% French Oak)

ALCOHOL: 14.2%

T.A.: 0.54 g / 100ml

PH: 3.65

HARVEST DATE: September 10–14, 2020

RELEASE DATE: December 2022

CASES: 3,000 (12-pack cases)

A TRUE NAPA VALLEY CLASSIC SINCE 1976

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