



Located on the historic Silverado Trail in Napa Valley's Oak Knoll District, Black Stallion Estate Winery pays homage to the rich history of the 32-acre estate which was once home to the Silverado Equestrian Center. The property was purchased in 2010 by the Indelicato family, a fourth-generation family-owned company founded in 1924. Sourcing from some of the most prestigious vineyards, the winery is committed to making only the most expressive wines.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2021 Limited Release Napa Valley Merlot opens with aromas of black and red cherries, dark pomegranate, red plum, and hints of baking spice and vanilla. This full-bodied wine with ripe fruit flavors and lively acidity is followed by a broad, velvety palate resulting in a long and lingering finish.

GROWING SEASON

Despite an unusually dry winter and warm spring, the 2021 growing season produced exceptionally high-quality fruit, some of the best in recent years. Early precipitation led to an ideal environment for our grapes to flower, bloom, and set in early spring, but lack of rainfall for the rest of the season reduced yields. The even ripening in the summer months allowed for the grapes to develop bright, fresh, clean fruit flavors. This moderate weather and long ripening time was instrumental for developing smooth, flavorful, and exquisitely balanced wines. All in all, this was a remarkable year to taste the unique characteristics and terroir from Napa Valley's diverse regions.

VINEYARDS

The majority of our grapes are carefully selected from the Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley, a region that boasts a unique microclimate. Nestled just north enough in the valley to ensure full ripening of robust, full-bodied red varieties, Oak Knoll is characterized by its mild yet extended growing season, allowing these varieties to reach their full maturity. Our estate vineyard at Black Stallion, within Oak Knoll, contributes to the exceptional quality of our grapes, benefiting from the AVA's ideal conditions for premium wine production.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were handpicked during the early morning hours to capture the concentrated fruit flavors at their peak ripeness. The process began with destemming and crushing the berries, followed by a three-day cold soak in small 6-ton and 10-ton stainless steel closed-top tanks. Subsequently, the must was allowed to warm, and yeast was introduced for fermentation. Throughout the primary fermentation stages, gentle pumpovers occurred three times a day until the wine reached dryness. The wine was then drained and pressed, combining both free-run and press fractions, with an emphasis on the press fraction's desirable characteristics. After aging in both new and used French oak barrels, the wine was racked to a tank, underwent unfining and crossflow filtration, and was prepared for bottling.

VINTAGE: 2021

VARIETAL COMPOSITION: Merlot

APPELLATION: Napa Valley

BARREL AGING: 18 months in 63% new French oak barrels

RS: 0.05 g/100ml • PH: 3.37 g • TOTAL ACID: 0.63 g/100ml • ALCOHOL BY VOL: 15.0%



2021 LIMITED RELEASE NAPA VALLEY

MERLOT

