



## OUR PROCESS

This Merlot was aged for 16 months, while other vintages of the same wine spend considerably less time aging. The desired result in barrel aging has a lot to do with the age of barrels used in the process. New barrels mean removing the wine sooner, while mature barrels allow for longer barrel time without over-oaking the wine. Our approach to this wine is simple... consistency. We have had customers coming to us for years because they love our Merlot, vintage after vintage.

**Fun fact:** Our 1998 Merlot (*not from this vineyard*) won Best in State at the CA State Fair.

## TASTING NOTES

Our 2021 Merlot boasts a vibrant ruby color and a delightful blend of aromas, including dark cherry, plum, and subtle hints of oak. While softer than a Cabernet, it still delivers a fruity and dry taste, making it a perfect everyday wine that's easy to enjoy.

This medium-bodied wine features soft tannins and low acidity, with flavors of ripe fruit such as black cherry and raspberry. Whether you choose to pair it with food or enjoy it on its own, the initial flavors are rich and fruit-forward with a touch of vanilla and spice. The finish is velvety and smooth, leaving a lingering taste that's sure to satisfy.

Our Merlot is versatile and pairs well with a variety of foods, including an antipasto platter filled with hard cheeses like manchego, cheddar, or gouda. It's also an excellent accompaniment to pasta or grilled vegetables. For the best taste experience, serve between 57-63 degrees Fahrenheit.

## BRAND

*Wooden Valley*

## VARIETAL BLEND

83% Merlot / 13% Cabernet /  
4% Petite Sirah

## TECHNICAL DATA

**Alcohol:** 14.2%

**pH:** 3.48 **TA:** 0.62g/100mL

**RS:** 0.26 g/100mL

**Bottling Date:** 5/24/2023

**Cases Produced:** 455

**Release Date:** 7/03/2023

## VINEYARD SOURCE

*Lanza Musto Vineyards*