

# SWANSON

## VINEYARDS

### 2023 MERLOT

#### NAPA COUNTY

#### VINTAGE

The 2023 grape harvest in Napa County is being celebrated as one of the most exceptional vintages in recent memory. A combination of favorable weather conditions and meticulous vineyard management contributed to the outstanding quality of the grapes. The season began with higher-than-average rainfall during winter and spring, replenishing soil moisture and leading to a successful bloom. Cooler spring temperatures delayed the growing season by 10-14 days compared to 2022, but the mild summer weather, with temperatures ranging from 72-75°F, allowed for extended hang-time. This prolonged ripening period enabled grapes to develop deep color, concentrated flavors, and balanced acidity.

#### VINEYARD

The fruit for the 2023 Merlot was harvested from three Napa vineyards: Mt. George (Coombsville), Foley Johnson, and Magnolia.

#### WINEMAKING

These grapes were hand harvested in the early morning. 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 received daily pump-overs during fermentation. Once fermentation was complete the tank was pressed and racked to barrel. In barrel, the wine underwent malolactic fermentation and then aged for 16 months.

#### TASTING NOTES

The 2023 Napa Merlot offers a bright entry with wet earth notes highlighted by red cherry, plum, herb and coco characters. The medium-body profile finishes long with a hint of chocolate. This is an approachable wine that is easy to enjoy with a variety of cuisine - we recommend a juicy hamburger.

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#### COMPOSITION

96% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
1% Malbec

#### BARREL REGIME

18 months in French oak, 35% new

#### BOTTLING DATE

June 5, 2025

#### CASE PRODUCTION

1,530

