

2019 Merlot

Estate Vineyard, Mt. Veeder, Napa Valley

With a passion for wine and a desire to produce small quantities of handcrafted wines from the most distinctive and promising vineyards in the Napa Valley, Proprietors Julie and Justin Arbuckle formed Anthem Winery in 2009. Anthem's guiding principle is simple- only the highest quality, from vine to bottle.

Crafting Anthem's ultra-premium wines is Winemaker, Jeff Ames. An explosive talent, Jeff has made some of California's most acclaimed wines from some of Napa Valley's most notable vineyards. Estate Vineyard Manager is John Anthony Truchard. John brings a rare skillset as he is an experienced viticulturist, an expert vineyard manager, and personally familiar with Napa's top vineyards.

.....

About the Vineyard

The Anthem estate vineyard is nestled in Napa's western hillsides at just 400 feet elevation, located at the base of the Mt. Veeder AVA. With six acres under vine, the vineyard produces Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, and Merlot. Optimal sun exposure, excessively drained Mayacamas series soil, and meticulous vineyard management are only a few factors that help produce wines with unparalleled distinction from our estate vineyard, year after year.

About the Vintage

The 2019 vintage in Napa Valley is a vintage that produced wines of exceptional fruit character, structure, and texture. A cool finish to the season allowed for a little extra hang time on the vine, allowing for excellent color development, perfectly ripened fruit, and well-balanced acidity.

Winemaking

The 2019 Mt. Veeder Estate Vineyard Merlot is comprised of 76% Merlot and 24% Cabernet Franc. It is unfined and unfiltered to maintain the natural flavors and aroma of the wine and was barrel fermented in 75% new French Oak (100% Daranjou coopers) for 18 months. It further develops in the bottle for an additional 17 months before release, allowing the intense mountain fruit the robust tannins the ideal time to settle and soften. Only 90 cases were produced in the 2019 vintage.

Tasting Notes

Our spectacular 2019 Merlot from our own Mt. Veeder Estate is complex and structured with a nose of red berries, olive, and cocoa. On the palate, it shows a plush, red fruit driven profile typical of the 2019 vintage with red cherry, licorice, currants, and loamy earth while still having classic background notes of macerated blackberry and chocolate. Its plush richness and firm tannins result in a lengthy finish. Ready to enjoy now through at least 2031. Decant or open an hour before drinking.





