## PRIDE MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS

## 2019 VINTNER SELECT MERLOT

Brooding aromas of black cherry, kirsch, ripe plum, dark chocolate, star anise and freshly-grated nutmeg burst forth from the moment the cork is pulled. Its unrelenting richness, dense mid-palate and fine, silky tannins throw down a gauntlet and dare you to resist giving the wine your full attention. To say this is a cab lover's merlot is an understatement.

The Vintner Select Merlot, which is typically no more than 500 cases each vintage, is made exclusively (100%) from our blocks of merlot planted to clone 3. Clone 3 merlot does something magical at elevation, producing wines loaded with dark cherry, licorice and spice flavors, while having a texture that, like the Vintner Select Cab, is both dense upfront and wonderfully silky on the finish. This is a decadent wine that shows just how flavorful merlot grown on a mountain top can be. It is distinct from our Reserve Claret, which uses the Vintner Select Merlot as its only merlot component, in that it does not have any added cabernet sauvignon or other varietals. The 2019 is as dense, refined and flavorful as any of our best vintages over the last 30 years.



## **PROFILE**

Appellation: 82% Napa

18% Sonoma

Vintage: 2019

Harvest: October 2019

Fermentation: Stainless Steel

Cooperage: French Oak

Blend: 100% Merlot

Alcohol: 14.4%

Bottling: July 2021

Production: 654 cases

Release Date: January 2022

Retail Price: \$92.00