

DECOY

2022 CALIFORNIA MERLOT

Established more than 30 years ago by legendary vintners Dan and Margaret Duckhorn, our roots run deep at Decoy. This California Merlot showcases the elegance of Merlot and highlights the bold fruit flavors. Reflecting the character of each growing season and the diversity of our vineyard sources, Decoy has established itself as a wine of distinction. From vine to bottle, we craft our wines to the highest standards, only using grapes from exceptional vineyards.

VINTAGE NOTES

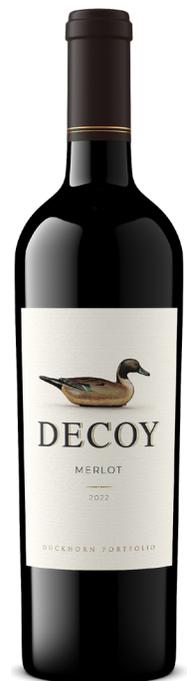
The 2022 harvest got off to an early start, with relatively low yields and warm late-July and early-August weather driving ripeness in many key appellations. As a result, we began harvesting Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, Zinfandel and Pinot Noir all in the first weeks of harvest. Early September brought a significant heat event to much of the state. During this period we meticulously monitored the weather reports, and our crews worked tirelessly to bring the fruit from each appellation in at ideal ripeness. After minor rains in late-September that cooled down the vines, we concluded harvest in late October. Although the pace was brisk, the wines are absolutely amazing, with bright, fruit-forward whites, and opulent and beautifully structured reds.

WINEMAKING NOTES

This opulent Merlot offers dramatic aromas of fresh black cherry, ripe boysenberry, and sweet baking spices as well as hints of leather, black olive, and toasty cardamom. On the palate, it strikes a seamless balance between voluptuous fruit, silky tannins, and toasty oak as it flows to a luscious cherry and spice finish.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	California
SUB-APPELLATION	Sonoma County, Mendocino County, San Luis Obispo County
BLEND COMPOSITION	95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
OAK PROFILE & AGING	Aged 12 months in 100% French oak 40% new, 60% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.1%
PH	3.60
ACIDITY	0.57 g/100 ml



THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO

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