

Shafer

Producing Merlot is a delicious Shafer tradition going back more than 40 years, when we established our first Merlot vines in 1981. We are pleased to bring Merlot back in this vintage with all its bright, bold elegance.

RELEASE DATE

September 1, 2025

VINEYARD LOCATIONS

The Yountville AVA, Shafer's Southern Foothills vineyards located on the rugged lower slopes of Napa Valley's eastern Vaca Mountains, along with other top vineyards sites.

2023 GROWING SEASON

The long 2023 summer offered ideal stretches of warm days and cool nights. In early September temperatures rose on cue, ushering in a harvest of ripe, elegant fruit.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

90% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Malbec

BRIX AT HARVEST

23.5° – 25.8°

COOPERAGE

18 months in 100% new French oak barrels (Allier & Tronçais)

ALCOHOL

15.3%

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

"The unparalleled 2023 vintage has produced a Merlot offering abundant layers of red plum, dark cherry, and raspberry, lifted by violet and lavender florals. Notes of vanilla, baking spices, and cherry pie evoke richness, while cranberry and subtle herbs add vibrant freshness. Seamlessly integrated tannins carry through to a remarkably long, graceful finish." — *Elias Fernandez, Shafer Vineyards Winemaker*



Merlot

2023
MERLOT
NAPA VALLEY