Shafer




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MERLOT · NAPA VALLEY

# 2023 Merlot

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.

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| 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. |
| 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% |

## 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.

*"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, WINEMAKER