Shafer



MERLOT · NAPA VALLEY

2024 Merlot

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97 POINTS	93 POINTS	92 POINTS
MERIDITH MAY	JAMES MOLESWORTH	TOM CAPO
The Tasting Panel	*Wine Spectator*	*Wine Enthusiast*

97

"... Aged 16 months in new French oak, this Merlot is a perfect example of the texture that derives from his methods as much as from the soil, the fresh, wet sweetness of which impacts the palate along with coffee and ripe cherry. A meaty broth streams through, showing depth with grace, and there's a crunch to the wine that is exceptional on the sleek finish."

MERIDITH MAY, THE TASTING PANEL

KEY ATTRIBUTES

- A return to Shafer's Merlot tradition, first planted in 1981
- Crafted by winemaker Elias Fernandez
- Sourced 96% from the estate School Bus Vineyard in Napa Valley's southern foothills
- Aged 16 months in 100% new French oak for depth and structure
- 95% Merlot with 5% Cabernet Sauvignon for balance and structure

WINEMAKER NOTE

"The 2024 growing season gave us Merlot of classic Napa Valley character — deep, dark, and generous. Layers of black cherry, ripe plum, and blackberry mingle with mocha, dried herbs, and a hint of violet, all supported by plush, rounded tannins. Bright acidity keeps the richness lively, carrying the wine to a long, polished finish that will only gain depth in the years ahead."

ELIAS FERNANDEZ, SHAFER WINEMAKER