



DOMAINE CARNEROS.

2023 Hyde Vineyard Merlot

BLEND

100% Carneros Merlot
24 Months Barrel Aged in French oak, 60% new

ABOUT OUR HYDE VINEYARD MERLOT

The Carneros area is planted overwhelmingly with Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, at 51% and 44% of the total acreage, respectively. And this is not without good reason as the climate is ideal for these two grape varieties. However, Carneros is a special, if not magical, place for Merlot. A place where the grapes can hang deep into October, developing additional layers of ripeness without losing freshness or acidity. We are very fortunate to work with famed grower Larry Hyde, who has been growing grapes in Carneros for over 40 years. Block #38 features a selection of Merlot from the historic “Three Palms” vineyard planted on St. George rootstock. The quadrilateral cane configuration opens up the canopy for light penetration, and we leave only 1-cluster per shoot, so each grape cluster hangs freely, never crowded by its neighbor. The yields are minuscule, making this fleeting winery exclusive a special addition to our portfolio of red wines.

HARVEST NOTES

We began the 2023 growing season with replenished reservoirs and saturated soils due to a tremendous 40” of rainfall after years of drought. The combination of record rainfall and a cool summer climate allowed for extended hang time and yielded a significant crop. Harvest of the Pinot Noir grapes destined for our still wines began on September 19th and continued at a slow and steady pace through mid-October, allowing for extended flavor development in the berries. The 2023 vintage with its stellar growing conditions and abundant yields resulted in beautifully crafted wines to celebrate for years to come.

WINEMAKER’S TASTING NOTES

Exotic dark fruits predominate on the nose with black cherry, sarsaparilla, spiced plum, and forest floor. The palate delivers leather with rich tannins, followed by notes of blackberries, baked fig, and more savory fruit. Taste a bit of Carneros history and the region’s best kept secret from this duly famous vineyard, just four barrels of this beautiful wine were made.

SUGGESTED PAIRINGS

Our winemakers recommend pairing the Hyde Vineyard Merlot with rich meats like filet mignon or beef bourguignon, but also works well with classic French ratatouille or a fresh gnocchi with gorgonzola cream sauce.

TECHNICAL DATA

Appellation: Carneros
Harvest brix: 24.0°
Final pH: 3.50
Final Acid: 0.60g/100ml
Alcohol: 15.2%

PRICE

\$69

Only 238 cases produced. Winery Exclusive.

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