

# DUCKHORN®

VINEYARDS

## 2021 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT STOUT VINEYARD

Stout Vineyard is located at approximately 1,700 feet in the Howell Mountain appellation—one of the Napa Valley’s most sought-after, ultra-premium winegrowing regions. As a result of its elevation, topography, soils and climate, Howell Mountain consistently produces a dark, dense and structured Merlot displaying rich wild berry and herb characteristics. In keeping with its mountain origins, this wine is supported by ample tannins, yielding a complex, age-worthy expression of Merlot.

### VINTAGE NOTES

Despite an unusually dry winter and warm spring, budbreak was delayed due to light rain in March. The overall lack of rainfall led to light clusters and small berries, which resulted in reduced yields and great concentration. Harvest began on August 5th with Semillon, and early heat generated a fast and furious first few weeks of picking. A much-needed mid-September cool-down allowed for sugars to realign with flavor development. Moderate temperatures continued throughout the rest of the season, providing additional hangtime for the grapes. Our last red grapes were harvested before the rains in late October, resulting in beautiful wines that are dense, pure and polished.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

This beautifully structured mountain-grown Merlot draws you in with aromas of brambly red raspberry, pomegranate, cranberry pie and graham cracker. On the palate, elegantly polished tannins frame complex layers of red currant, chocolate-covered caramel, sweet baking spices and wet stone minerality as they build to a long, luscious finish.

### WINEMAKING

APPELLATION	Napa Valley
VINEYARD	Stout Vineyard
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	89% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Sauvignon
FERMENTATION & AGING	Aged 18 months in 100% French Oak 75% new, 25% neutral
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.74
ACIDITY	0.62 g/100 ml



### THE DUCKHORN PORTFOLIO