



Since our founding in 1972, we have advocated for the artful blending of the Bordeaux varieties to achieve balance, finesse and character in our red wines. Meritage is the name given to a Bordeaux-style blend, combining the “merit” of the grape with the “heritage” of the blending tradition. In 1985, winery founder David Stare was the first vintner in California to produce a wine with “Meritage” on the label.

The fall and winter rains of the 2020 season were slightly below average, but spring rains helped to increase the total rainfall. Heat waves in mid-August and the first week of September set off a fast-paced early stretch of harvest. Nature dealt some unexpected cards with the Walbridge Fire in August, in a remote forested area, and the Glass Fire in September, located on the eastern side of Sonoma County. Ever focused on quality, our winemaking team implemented an intensive plan for evaluating grapes prior to harvesting. After detailed analysis of each block within each vineyard, we were proud to produce beautifully structured, complex and delicious wines from the challenging vintage.

The 2020 vintage is a full and complex wine that’s an absolute pleasure to drink. Aromas of black currant and boysenberry waft from the glass. As the wine opens up, it reveals aromas of clove, coriander and cedar. On the palate, the wine is plush with fine tannins and full of luxuriant flavors of black cherry, ripe raspberry, nutmeg, cinnamon and fennel. The finish is seamless and well-integrated. This wine will age beautifully and develop in the bottle for years to come.



70% Merlot	6.2 g/L
23% Cabernet Sauvignon	September 12–October 9, 2020
5% Malbec	14–30 years
2% Cabernet Franc	Rocky, iron-rich soils
11–17 days in fermenters at 82–88°F; pumped over twice daily	4–5 tons per acre
20 months in French, Hungarian and American oak; 33% new oak	
13.5%	
24.8	
3.66	

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POINTS
WINEENTHUSIAST
2019