



2021 THE MARINER

Dry Creek Valley

HISTORY

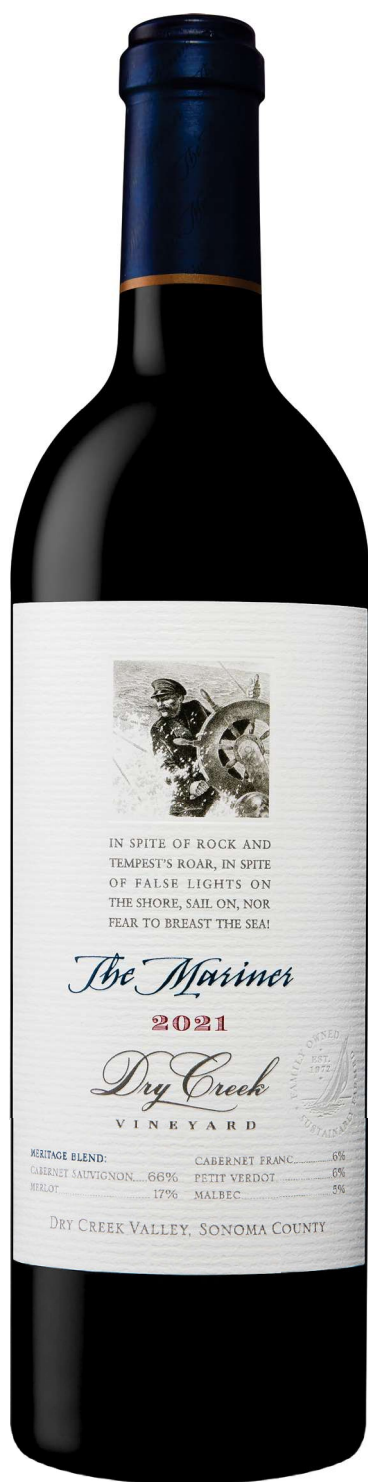
The Mariner is a powerful, yet elegant Meritage made in the tradition of some of the world's greatest Bordeaux blends. We call this proprietary blend "The Mariner" because just as a mariner navigates his ship, so too must our winemaker navigate his way through a vintage. This wine is the culmination of years spent working with different vineyards in the Dry Creek Valley, including our own estate DCV9 Endeavour property. The Mariner represents our vision to produce the finest Meritage wine from the Dry Creek Valley using the five noble Bordeaux varieties.

GROWING SEASON

The 2021 growing season was moderate and consistent, with more typical start and end dates for our 50th harvest. Due to drought conditions, we saw less shoot growth, so we gave the vines extra care and attention when managing canopies and crop loads. The shorter shoots, combined with a below average fruit set, led to our yield being down across the harvest compared to last year's. However, the quality was very high overall.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

At first swirl, the wine displays aromas of black currant, plum, black cherry and blackberry. Several more minutes reveal hints of tobacco, toffee and cinnamon. The palate has dark berry flavors along with earthy complexity and savory tones. It finishes with notes of mocha, *herbes de Provence* and violet. Good acidity will help this wine to age beautifully for years to come.



BLEND

66% Cabernet Sauvignon
17% Merlot
6% Cabernet Franc
6% Petit Verdot
5% Malbec

FERMENTATION

13–16 days in fermenters at 82–88°F;
pumped over twice daily

BARREL AGING

19 months in French and Hungarian
oak; 39% new oak

ALCOHOL | 14.5%

BRIX | 24.8

PH | 3.63

TA | 6.1 g/L

HARVEST DATES

September 8–October 11, 2021

VINE AGE | 12–26 years

SOILS

Gravelly loam on rolling hills

95 92
POINTS POINTS

JAMES SUCKLING.COM

TOP 100

WINEENTHUSIAST