CrauforD

MERLOT
'Ben Nevis'

KNOLLWOOD VINEYARD | NAPA VALLEY | 2022 | CERTIFIED ORGANIC VINEYARD
WINEMAKER : Christopher Crawford Corley WINEGROWER : Julianna Corley

VARIETALS :	100% Merlot	APPELLATION :	100% Napa Valley
VINEYARDS :	100% Knollwood Vineyard	SUB-APPELLATIONS :	100% Oak Knoll District

ANALYSIS : 14.2 % Alc, 5.7 g/L TA, 3.82 pH
PRODUCTION : 15 Barrels / 360 Cases

HARVEST : Hand-Picked. September 13, 2022.
CRUSHING : Destemmed and Hand-Sorted Prior Crushing to Small Bins.
FERMENTATION : Bin Fermented, 16 Days Skin Contact Prior to Draining & Pressing.
AGING : Aged 22 Months In 15 French Oak Barrels. 27% New Barrels.

VINTAGE NOTES : We're excited about the 2022 vintage. We had a faster paced growing season with a heat spike in early September, but our established and deep rooted vineyards were balanced, and we were prepared. It was one of the driest years on record, but the little rain that we had was well-timed, and the vines were thankful and happy. For our vineyards, the vintage was considered 'normal' in terms of timing. In general, the wines from 2022 are displaying ripe fruit, great structure and balance.

WINEMAKING NOTES : All individual blocks were hand-picked and fermented separately. The fruit was destemmed, and berry-sorted on the crush pad. Fermentation lasted 16 days, with the wine drained and pressed at dryness. Malolactic fermentation took place in barrels. The wine was aged in oak barrels for 22 months, gently racked and returned every 4 months to promote evolution of the tannin structure and complexity.

TASTING NOTES : I find aromas and flavors of black cherry, plum, and blackberry … with hints of chocolate, vanilla, and baking spices from the oak aging. This wine has soft tannins and moderate acidity, contributing to its easy-drinking nature. It has a long, lingering warm finish.

BOTTLES PER CASE : 12x750	CASE WEIGHT : 38 lbs
CASES PER PALLET : 56	CASE DIMENSIONS : 13¾"L x 10½"W x 12"H

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