

DARIOUSH



2016 Darioush Signature Merlot

NAPA VALLEY

DARIOUSH DISTINCTION

Aromatic complexity and typicity is the hallmark of Darioush Signature Merlot. Our meticulous vineyard practices, the unique microclimates and soils from our Southern Napa Valley vineyards atop Mount Veeder and on the Valley floor naturally restrict, concentrate and carefully ripen this noble Bordeaux variety to coax a plush yet focused wine.

TASTING NOTES

With plenty of lively red and black fruits on offer, 2016 Signature Merlot expresses all the nuance of a picture-perfect vintage. The extended 2016 growing season allowed Merlot to slowly develop its flavor profile of luscious blackberry and plum, lifted by a snap of bright, tart cherry. Round and concentrated on the palate, the wine integrates notes of licorice and acacia wood with roast espresso, mocha and savory pipe tobacco. Soft yet supple tannins support a long finish, which reveals spicy hints of clove, cinnamon and anise. With additional bottle age, this classically styled, mountain-grown Merlot will continue to reward the patient collector.

VINIFICATION

Meticulous attention to detail in the vineyard and minimal cellar handling. Hand-harvested and sorted twice, before and after de-stemming. Fermentation includes cold soaking for 4 days in traditional fermenters with gentle pump-overs for optimal color extraction and tannin management. Aged 20 months in 70% new Chateau Traditional French oak barrels. Barrel lots were racked 2-3 times per year for clarity.

COMPOSITION

88% Merlot,
9% Cabernet Sauvignon,
3% Malbec

APPELLATION

Darioush Estate Vineyards
Napa Valley & Oak Knoll AVA
Sage Vineyard – Mount Veeder

WINEMAKER

Steve Devitt

AVAILABILITY

2,128 cases

PRICE

\$60 / bottle, 750ml
\$720 / 12-bottle case

