



DARIOUSH

SIGNATURE MERLOT

2010 VINTAGE ~ NAPA VALLEY

DARIOUSH DISTINCTION

The unique terroir of our rocky, higher-elevation Mt Veeder estate combines a cooler marine influence and exceptional sun exposure to naturally concentrate, ripen and reduce yields of this vigorous Bordeaux varietal—providing Merlot fruit with greater depth, texture and aromatic complexity.

TASTING NOTES

Limited by Mother Nature, our 2010 Signature Merlot is exceptionally well-balanced and rewardingly complex. Floral aromas of lavender and violet join clove, black tea and incense on the vibrant, inviting nose. At its core are warm, ripe flavors of dark plum, Black Mission fig and blueberry, laced with enriching hints of vanilla, cola and cassis. Plush and rich yet with plenty of structure, this is a wine for immediate enjoyment or longer term aging.

VINIFICATION

- ~ Meticulous attention to detail in vineyard and minimal cellar handling
- ~ The grapes were hand-harvested at night into 28 lb. baskets to insure cold, whole cluster fruit and preserve aromatic complexities
- ~ Hand-sorted twice, both before de-stemming and after to achieve very clean, consistent fruit
- ~ Fermented in a combination of opened top and closed top fermenters. Fermentation includes cold soaking for 4 days, with gentle pump-overs and extended maceration for optimal color extraction and tannin development.
- ~ Aged 24 months in a combination of French oak barrels with barrel to barrel racking. The wine received minimal handling to the bottle.

COMPOSITION 85% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc, 5% Malbec

APPELLATION Darioush Estate Vineyards, Napa Valley, Oak Knoll, Mt. Veeder

COOPERAGE 24 months in 75% new French oak

WINEMAKER Steve Devitt

AVAILABILITY 760 cases

PRICE \$50.00

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