

VANESSA

VINEYARD

Carved from stone, fuelled by sun, a vineyard like no other.

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2021 Meritage



Merlot 43% / Cabernet Sauvignon 29% /
Cabernet Franc 28%

Merlot Clone 181 Bordeaux, France
Cabernet Franc Clone 331
Pyrénées-Atlantiques, France
Cabernet Sauvignon Clone 169 Bordeaux,
France

Alcohol 15.3%
Residual Sugar 1.2 g/L
Total Acidity 5.8 g/L
pH 3.94
Brix 26.6
Cases Produced 851
Released 2026
SKU 160895

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Flavour Profile

Our Meritage is a Cabernet-dominant blend of Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Merlot. On the nose, this fully developed wine reveals aromas of red plum, raspberry, sage and thyme. On the palate, ripe fruit, oak and savoury herbs come together in seamless balance, leading to a long, rich finish with excellent structure and concentrated flavour.

Growing Conditions

The 2021 growing season began with steady vine development following a cooler spring. In late June, a significant heat dome brought prolonged extreme temperatures during a sensitive stage of berry development, requiring increased irrigation to sustain vine function. These conditions produced smaller berries and reduced cluster weights, resulting in lower yields and a higher skin-to-juice ratio. This enhanced colour, tannin structure, and fruit flavour concentration. The remainder of the season provided stable conditions that supported even ripening and phenolic development.

Wines from the 2021 vintage reflect the season's intensity, showing depth, structure, and concentration. The reds from this vintage, in particular, display fuller body, higher alcohol, and a riper flavour profile while maintaining balance and varietal integrity.

Winemaking

Crafted from only 100% estate-grown and hand-picked fruit. The grapes were destemmed and underwent a gentle crush before small-batch fermentation and hand punch down to maximize flavour and extraction. This vintage is almost entirely comprised of free-run juice with only a very small quantity of pressed juice added to balance the tannins. Each varietal was individually fermented and barrel-aged for 8 months. The small lots were then carefully blended and the final assemblage was aged 12 additional months in American and French oak of which 40% were new barrels. The result is a seamless, beautifully integrated expression of our terroir.