

DARIOUSH



2018 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

A nod to the long, even-keeled growing season on our high-elevation Sage Vineyard atop Mount Veeder, 2018 Signature Merlot displays the concentration and finesse of a classic mountain-grown Merlot. Aromatically complex with licorice, violets, dusty cocoa, and fine leather, the flavors move from dense black cherry and currant fruits, refreshed with a blood orange-like acidity to savory herb, forest, and bergamot notes. The wine finishes powerful and polished, with rich plummy fruit and freshly baked pie crust, and will develop further complexity with aging.

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
100% Merlot

APPELLATION
Dariosh Estate Vineyards
Napa Valley
Oak Knoll AVA
Sage Vineyard – Mount Veeder

WINEMAKER
Hope Goldie

VITICULTURALIST
Steve Devitt

AVAILABILITY
2,800 cases

