

Our Rugged Elements series are limited production wines that reflect the diversity and richness of the very best vineyards in Sonoma County. Influenced by the elements that define the terroir - from the river to the soil and trees, to the dense fog and ocean, each wine is a unique expression of the single vineyard it was sourced from.

**FROM THE WINEMAHER**

The grapes were hand-harvested in the early morning hours of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and destemmed to tank. After 13 days on the skins the free run was drained to tank, settled, then barreled down. After 14 months in barrel the winemakers selected the ideal barrels for the blend—40% new oak, 50% French and 50% American oak barrels.

**TASTING NOTES**

This Merlot offers aromas of black plum, cocoa powder and cedar forest. The palate is lively and pleasant with flavors of black cherry and blackberry bramble, approachable tannins and a hint of roasted hazelnut.

**THE VINEYARD**

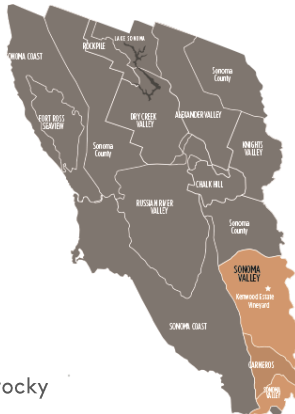
The 2019 vintage marks the final harvest from our renowned Kenwood Estate Vineyard, in the heart of the Sonoma Valley. To make this select vineyard designate wine, we used the Merlot block that is located at the very top of our property. Here the rocky and dry soil has very low fertility. These growing conditions are difficult for the vines and lowers their yield, allowing them to produce exceptionally concentrated and flavorful fruit.

**WINEMAKING DETAILS**

- Composition:** 99% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Harvest Date:** October 1, 2019
- Harvest Method:** Handpicked in the early morning hours
- Aging:** 14 months in barrel – 40% new oak, 50% French, 50% American oak
- Acidity/pH:** 6.2g/L, pH = 3.45
- Alcohol:** 13.5%
- Production:** 324 cases
- Bottled:** March 2021

**VINEYARD DETAILS**

- Region:** Sonoma Valley
- Elevation:** 555'
- Latitude:** 38° 25' 00.87"
- Longitude:** 122° 32' 32.08"
- Block Area:** 23.70 acres
- Rootstock:** 420A
- Clone:** 6
- Soil:** Los Robles gravelly loam/rocky



Sonoma County, CA

