

2019 NO BRAINER DRY CREEK VALLEY MERLOT

90 POINTS – JEB DUNNUCK

Coming from the Dry Creek Valley region in Sonoma, the 2019 Merlot Dry Creek has a solid bouquet of ripe red and black fruits, hints of leather, Asian spices, and a touch of tobacco. This pleasure-bent, up-front, medium-bodied Merlot has soft tannins, tons of charm, and would be a heck of a house red to enjoy over the coming 3-5 years or more. 2/16/23

89 POINTS – THE WINE INDEPENDENT

The 2019 No Brainer Dry Creek Valley Merlot has a deep garnet-purple color. It skips out of the glass with vivacious notes of cinnamon and cloves, over a core of black cherry compote and blueberry pie, with a hint of menthol. The full-bodied palate contributes a well-judged suggestion of oak to the spicy black fruits, finishing long. 4/13/23

The 2019 No Brainer Dry Creek Valley Merlot offers beautiful aromas of ripe black currant, blackberry liqueur, black cherry and raspberry compote. Layers of purple flowers, mocha, underbrush and loamy soil round out the fruit forward nose. The palate showcases layered texture and finesse. The dark fruit and sweet toasty oak coat the palate with a gorgeous enduring finish.

VARIETAL	97% Merlot 3% Malbec
APPELLATION	86% Dry Creek Valley 11% Chalk Hill 3% Napa Valley
SOIL	Gravelly clay loam Gravelly sandy loam
FARMING	Sustainable
OAK	100% French oak (50% new)
AGING	30 months
ALCOHOL	14.9%
PRODUCTION	1,356 cases

