

PRIDE

MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS

2021 MERLOT

NAPA COUNTY



1990

2023

blend

88% MERLOT

12% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

aging

16 MONTHS

40% NEW FRENCH

abv

14.4%

srp

\$69

global trade release

2400 CASES

Pride Mountain Vineyards sits high atop Napa Valley's Spring Mountain, at the site of the historic Summit Ranch, where wine grapes have been grown since 1885. Our beautiful estate includes wine caves dug deep into the mountains and the ruins of the old stone Summit Winery dating to 1890. As you walk the vineyards, there are 360-degree views with Mount St. Helena and the Vaca Mountains to the north and east and the Sonoma Coastal Ranges to the west and south. It's simply breathtaking.

There is another unique and interesting feature to the Pride estate. At the crest of the Mayacamas Mountains, we are on the Napa-Sonoma county line. For this reason, our wines often carry a Napa-Sonoma designation. Most of the wines are estate, but because we rest in two AVAs, we may not use the "Estate" moniker on our wines. Far from regional blends, Pride wines are emblematic of our mountaintop terroir and unique position both within two counties and also as a place unto ourselves.

Some 2000 feet above the floor of the Napa Valley, our vines receive more light, resulting in tannin and phenolic anti-oxidant levels that are higher than red grapes in the surrounding valleys. This is the main contributor to the broad-shouldered "mountain character" of our red wines. Although we receive more sunshine, the climate is more even than that of the valley floor, allowing for great hang time in the fall. This enables our winemaking team to balance the power, lushness, and structure of our fruit with freshness and complexity. Indeed, the aromatic and flavor nuances of our wines could only come from the unique woodland terroir of the ranch.

Pride Mountain Vineyards was founded in 1990 by Jim and Carolyn Pride. Today, the winery is owned by the second generation of the Pride family.

THE WINE

Perfectly ripe blackberry and black plum are layered with chocolate, Five Spice, cardamon, black licorice, black loamy earth, and wet pipe tobacco. The luxurious black fruit is carried through on the palate alongside cocoa nibs, bay, and baking spices. The flavors envelop your whole mouth, driven by the fresh fruit of youthfulness and distinctively firm tannins of the 2021 vintage. Bright acidity brings balance to the chewy tannins and drives the minutes long finish. This is classic Pride Merlot, exemplifying the power, density, and elegance of mountaintop viticulture.



INSTAGRAM

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