



Arietta Merlot Hudson Vineyards 2021

Notes by Arietta Winemaker Andy Erickson

The Arietta wines from Hudson Vineyards in 2021 are remarkable for their purity, precision, and concentration. The growing season was dry and warm, leading to smaller berries, lower overall yields, and a consequential level of depth and intensity. The Merlot has a dark blue-purple hue and a corresponding aroma profile of baked blueberries, fresh cut thyme, subtle baking spices, and crushed stones. There is added depth and complexity from a thoughtful addition of 16% Cabernet Franc from our beloved H Block, which lives uphill from and adjacent to the old Merlot vines. Native yeast fermentation, twenty months of aging in French oak barrels, and bottling without fining or filtration help preserve the nuanced character of this unique wine.

Blend: 84% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc

Fruit Sources: 100% Hudson Vineyard, G, H, and I Blocks, Napa/Carneros

Vine Age: 35 years

Elevage: 20 months in French oak barrels, 57% new

Production: 333 cases