

# CHELSEA

*Goldschmidt*

Guidestone Rise, Alexander Valley

## MERLOT 2020

CURRENT RELEASE

### VINTAGE

2020

### VARIETAL

100% Merlot

### APPELLATION

Alexander Valley

### VINEYARD / ELEVATION

Guidestone Rise / 300'

### SOILS

River sandy loam

### PRUNING / TRELLIS

Hand pruned / GDC

### VINES / ROOTSTOCK / CLONE

25 Years, 110R, Clone 181

### HARVEST DATE

Hand Harvested 9/12/2020

### HARVEST YIELD

3.65 tones per acre

### ALCOHOL / TA / pH

14.5% / 6.2g/L / 3.55

### FILTERING

Unfined / Unfiltered / Vegan

### BOTTLE AGE

12 Months

### WOOD PROGRAM

100% French/ 25% New Oak

### CELLARING POTENTIAL

10 Years

### CASES PRODUCED

25,000, 12-PACKS

### WINEMAKER

Nick Goldschmidt

### VINEYARD NOTES

Guidestone Rise is a beautiful vineyard along Route 128, just east of Geyserville. The exceptional combination of climate, soil, and exposure stamps its mark on this classic varietal. This estate vineyard is well-suited to growing deeply concentrated, powerful Merlot. River soils of sandy loam and good drainage promote full grape maturity yet discourage the overly-vigorous Merlot from producing too high of yields. Named after Nick's eldest daughter, Chelsea, our Merlot highlights the juicy red fruit and spice notes from the varietal notes and barrel aging.

### VINTAGE NOTES

Rainfall for 2020 was perhaps two thirds of the average range. Rains in March and April made a huge impact for helping the vines get through the summer hot days and cool nights. The early warmth precipitated harvest being about 10 days ahead of historical Sonoma County vintages. Alexander Valley's intense fogs which came in from the coast every 3 days or so helped, but the crop was still devastatingly small at 60% of normal. A light and rare vintage.

### TASTING NOTES

This wine has a vibrant, dark purple hue. The nose shows gorgeous red cherry and blueberry aromas with background spice. Soft red fruit characters, accented by black tea flavors makes the mouth immediately pleasing. Tannins are round and soft with a nice acid to balance. It finishes with long and supple tannins.



*Goldschmidt Vineyards wines are designed to showcase the finest examples of single-vineyard bottling. Sourced from Alexander Valley and Napa Valley/Oakville appellations, site-specific harvests and state-of-the-art winemaking to craft our Cabernet, they achieve exceptional richness, quality, and balance—the hallmark of a world-class wine.*

