

# CHELSEA

*Goldschmidt*

Guidestone Rise, Alexander Valley

## MERLOT 2021

### VINTAGE

2021

### 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% / 5.6g/L / 3.63

### FILTERING

Unfined / Unfiltered / Vegan

### WOOD PROGRAM

100% French/ 25% New Oak

### BOTTLE AGE

12 Months

### CELLARING POTENTIAL

Drink now through 2035

### CASES PRODUCED

2,550 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

Vintage 2021 was one of the longest ripening seasons for the past two decades. Seasons are starting earlier due to the lack of water, creating early, warm Spring soil temperatures. This is evened out with the August cooling trend at veraison. However, there was the heat spike over Mother's Day Weekend which restricted the berry expansion. Yields were lighter with small berries and small clusters. All this led to unusual concentration for such young vines.

### TASTING NOTES

Deep purple hue. Tantalizing aromas of ripe cherry, blueberry and black plum. Complexed with a hint of vanilla oak but very vibrant. The mouth has immediate fine-grained tannins and a lively complexity, this is a lovely expression of Alexander Valley Merlot. Flavors are rich and fleshy, with luxurious layers of black berry, red licorice, fig compote, blueberry and crushed rose petal flowing to a long, elegant finish. Lots of tension and totally fruit driven.



*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.*

