

# 2023 PLUMPJACK SYRAH, NAPA VALLEY



**BLEND**  
100% Syrah



**ALCOHOL**  
15.0%



**PRODUCTION**  
1,429 cases



**HARVEST DATE**  
Atlas Peak: 9/30  
Los Carneros: 10/7



**PLUMPJACK**  
WINERY

**WINEMAKER**  
Aaron Miller  
  
**AVA**  
Napa Valley

## VINTAGE

The winter of 2023 was cold and wet. Our rainfall was 10 inches above average and we saw record snowfall in the mountains of Napa Valley. So, understandably, our vines slept in a bit and budbreak began about three weeks later than what is typical. Spring was cool. Summer was cool. And while we were getting reports of record heat throughout the U.S., the fall in Napa was... cool. The late budbreak and cool vintage led to a late harvest, which allowed us to craft incredible wines with beautiful and fresh aromatics, vibrant acidity, and great depth, weight, and complexity.

## VINEYARDS

Grapes for this Syrah are grown in the Los Carneros and Atlas Peak regions of the Napa Valley. Los Carneros is the southernmost grape growing region of Napa Valley, just north of the San Pablo Bay, the northern lobe of the San Francisco Bay. Vineyards in this area see dramatically cooler weather than the more northern regions of the Napa Valley due to the cooling effect of the San Pablo Bay. This cooler weather makes for ideal growing conditions for varieties such as Syrah, Merlot, and Chardonnay. The fruit from the mountainous region of Atlas Peak is at higher elevations, which also has cooler daytime temperatures than much of the valley floor. This vineyard site is on a slope with very rocky and shallow soils, which adds stress to the vines and gives us a darker fruit profile, great concentration, and firm tannin.

## FERMENTATION & AGING

In 2023, 66% of our Syrah grapes were destemmed and fermented in stainless steel tanks, while 12% were fermented in concrete tanks. The remaining 22% of the grapes were whole-cluster fermented in open-top tanks. After pressing, the wine was transferred to French oak Burgundy barrels where it underwent malolactic fermentation. The coopers used in this wine include Francois Freres, Meyrieux, Gillet, and Sirugue, of which, 60% were new barrels. The wine was aged for 18 months prior to bottling.

## WINEMAKER IMPRESSIONS

The 2023 PlumpJack Syrah is an expressive and layered wine, showcasing the best of both the Carneros and Atlas Peak vineyards from which this wine is crafted. The nose opens with fresh blackberry, black cherry, and blueberry. Beneath the fruit are the wilder savory notes that make Syrah so exciting—peppercorn, clove, nutmeg, and smoked meats. The oak aging contributes warmth and depth with notes of cocoa, mocha, and Earl Grey tea. The flavors on the palate echo those on the nose—sweet blackberry, cherry, and blueberry, leading to luxuriant notes of cocoa, mocha, caramel, and spice. The palate is full and concentrated with firm yet ripe tannins and juicy acidity that, together, create a stunning Syrah with impeccable balance, vibrant energy, and great length.