

*East of Napa, Left of Center*

ESTATE GROWN & BOTTLED | DUNNIGAN HILLS

# THE HERDSMAN

2023 MALBEC

## *The Wine*

Solid, delicious, and powerful the 2023 Herdsman is for those who appreciate Malbec with muscle and finesse. Aromas of chocolate, red licorice, and chocolate-covered cherries rise from the glass, with subtle hints of clove and warm spice. On the palate the texture is dense and structured with layers of dark fruit, leather, and cocoa. The oak presence is pronounced yet balanced, adding depth and complexity. This is a full-bodied red with a deep, weighty mouthfeel and lingering finish.

## *The Story*

The winged sheep icon is an homage to the Giguere family ranching tradition that launched their life of farming in the Dunnigan Hills. There is a long tradition of ranching in the Dunnigan Hills. The sheep farmers valued the open expanse of grasslands on gravelly soils where grazing was plentiful. And the Giguere family has been tied to that tradition since 1852. Now the sixth generation is creating their own tradition, using sheep not for wool or food but to improve the health of the soil, the health of the vines and the quality of the grapes.

## *The Viticulture & Winemaking*

The Herdsman wines are based around specific clones that thrive in our estate vineyards. Malbec Clone 595 may not have the sexiest of names, but these vines have proven to produce the most intense varietal flavors and richest color year after year. The Malbec, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Petit Sirah were all harvested at night and gently crushed within 30 minutes of picking and sent to temperature controlled stainless steel tanks for fermentation. The four estate grown wines were then blended for barrel aging to slowly integrate the inherent fruit flavors with just a soft touch of oak and barrel spice.



## *Appellation*

Dunnigan Hills, Estate Bottled

## *Vineyards*

100% Matchbook, Estate Grown

## *Blend*

80% Malbec  
10% Petit Verdot  
5% Cabernet Sauvignon  
5% Petite Sirah

TA	pH
5.51 g/L	3.56

## *Alcohol*

13.9%

## *Production*

186 cases



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