

*East of Napa, Left of Center*

ESTATE GROWN & BOTTLED | DUNNIGAN HILLS

# THE HERDSMAN

2022 MALBEC

## *The Wine*

Malbec grown in the Dunnigan Hills emphasizes the red apple, red berry and herbal spice flavors that are characteristic of the varietal. The 2022 Herdsman Malbec has all that along with toasty oak and warm baking spices from extended aging in 60-hectoliter French foudre ovals. These large oval casks enhance texture and mouthfeel without overshadowing the vibrant fruitiness.

## *The Story*

The winged sheep icon is an homage to the Giguiere 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 Giguiere 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, Cabernet Sauvignon Clone 337 and Petit Verdot Clone 2 were all harvested at night and gently crushed within 30 minutes of picking and sent to temperature controlled stainless steel tanks for fermentation. The three estate grown wines were then blended for aging in new 60 hectoliter Foudrerie Francois ovals 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*

85% Malbec  
10% Petit Verdot  
5% Cabernet Sauvignon

## *Alcohol*

13.9%

## *Production*

203 cases



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