

2023 Cabernet Merlot



Mayhem Wines is a collaboration between two established wine industry siblings - Terry Meyer Stone of Anarchist Mountain Vineyards and her brother JAK Meyer of Meyer Family Vineyards, along with their respective spouses Andrew Stone and Janice Stevens.

Our grapes are grown at Anarchist Mountain Vineyard in Osoyoos, where we have a long-term lease agreement. We also have partnerships with devoted, quality-driven growers throughout the Okanagan Valley, including the Naramata Bench and Oliver. We aim to work with growers and vineyards that use organic and sustainable farming practices and give back to the land.

THE VINTAGE

The 2023 vintage was defined by the extremes. An extremely cold winter led to bud damage and reduced yields, while the summer was threatened by wildfires in the north and south. While temperatures exceeded 40°C on several occasions in the South Okanagan, the summer felt cooler than previous years. Temperatures between 33°C and 38°C are optimal growing conditions for our Bordeaux blends and aromatic whites. Due to fewer clusters and full canopies, this led to an earlier start for harvest beginning on September 18th with our Rosé pick. Even though tonnages were lower than previous vintages, overall, the fruit quality across the board was excellent. The flavour profile and the phenolic development shone through resulting in electric flavourful fruit for the white varieties and concentrated, structured reds.

THE WINE

The fruit was hand-harvested from three unique sites in the South Okanagan for this blend: Anarchist Mountain Vineyard, Pheasant Run Vineyard, and Ryegrass Road Vineyard. Each pick was then independently whole berry destemmed into stainless steel fermenters, where they each cold soaked for 5 days prior to a 10-to-12-day fermentation. Post- fermentation, the wines were transferred to 100% French oak barrels where a natural malolactic fermentation occurred in the Spring. Overall, the wines aged for 11 months before the final blend (79% Merlot and 21% Cabernet Franc). It was then filtered and bottled in the Summer of 2024.

TASTING NOTES

A beautiful Cabernet Merlot showcasing plush red berry fruits like strawberries, raspberries, and ripe cherries. The tannins are soft and velvety, with a dry palate that finishes with a dash of dried sage and spice. It is bright and fresh and can be enjoyed now but also has the longevity to age nicely for the next 2-4 years.

PAIRS WELL WITH

Brandy braised duck legs or a mixed plate of your favourite soft cheeses.

TA - 5.97 g/L

RS - 0.50 g/L

Alcohol - 13.7%

222 cases produced