

vilafonté

Series M 2023

Savoury & Satin

Elegant, unhurried, and finely detailed.

Dark hued, crimson-black in colour, the wine is deeply fragrant and unfolds with poised restraint. Layers of cranberry, loganberry, and ripe plum are lifted by delicate violet and a touch of savoury hoisin.

The palate is supple and assured, gliding with lithe precision. Fine, satin-textured tannins carry the quiet persistence of fruit, reflecting both composure and approachability.

Poised yet compelling, the 2023 Series M offers immediate allure while holding the promise of decades of graceful evolution.

The Vintage

The 2023 vintage reminded us how swiftly light can turn to shadow, and how timing alone can separate fortune from misfortune. Outstanding early conditions carried us through harvest, our final lots secured only days before March 4th brought a week of rain that might have rewritten the story entirely.

Picking began on February 2nd and continued until March 1st, a slightly extended window, shaped by a warm first half of February followed by a cooler close. This shift tempered ripening, allowing balance and freshness to define the fruit. Berry weights reflected the season: Merlot, Malbec, and Cabernet Franc were modestly smaller (1-3%) than average, lending natural concentration, while Cabernet Sauvignon berries were slightly larger, contributing generosity and an approachable tannin profile.

Although March delivered over 60 mm more rain than the norm, our harvest was safely in before the downpours, leaving us among the fortunate few who carried the season's promise intact into the cellar. The resulting wines show a poised tension between ripe black fruit and lifted freshness, framed by fine tannins and classical structure. Opulence is tempered by clarity, and the 2023s stand as wines of both immediate allure and assured longevity.

The Blend

22 months in 25% new French oak barrique, with the balance in older French oak.
Series M 2023 consists of Merlot (41%), Malbec (38%), Cabernet Sauvignon (16%) and Cabernet Franc (5%).

80 barrels were produced.

Chris de Vries
November 2025

