



GOLAN HEIGHTS WINERY

# YARDEN

## Merlot 2020



**VARIETY**  
Merlot

**ABOUT YARDEN**

Yarden is the premier label and flagship brand of Golan Heights Winery. Each year, the finest grapes from the best vineyards are reserved for Yarden wines. “Yarden” is the Hebrew word for Jordan River, which bisects the Golan Heights from the Galilee. The label features a symbol of ancient Israel: an oil lamp decorated with mosaic tile.

**WINEMAKER**

Victor Schoenfeld

**THE WINE**

2020 Yarden Merlot expresses notes of ripe red and black fruits, along with orange peel, earth and fresh herbs. A wonderful example of the exceptional quality of Merlot grown in the Golan Heights, this classic Merlot is full-bodied, rich and flavorful. The wine aged in French oak barrels (40% new) for 18 months. 2020 Yarden Merlot will develop in the bottle over the next few years, and endure in excellent drinking condition for up to a decade from harvest.

**THE VINTAGE**

The 2020 vintage was truly historic, with COVID coinciding with challenging harvest conditions. After a summer of above-average rainfall and some of Israel’s warmest-ever temperatures, our second, third and fourth weeks reached record levels, followed by an eight-week harvest period that was the shortest since 1994. Overall quality was high, proving once again that we have an amazing winegrowing region and team that comes through under extreme conditions.

**ACCOLADES**

Wine Enthusiast **92 pts (2016)** | Wine Enthusiast **89 pts (2017)**

**ABOUT THE GALILEE APPELLATION**

The Galilee (or Galil) is the northernmost — and generally considered the best — appellation in Israel. The highest quality growing area within the appellation is the Golan Heights (or simply the Golan), also the coldest region in Israel. The vineyards on this volcanic plateau rise from 1,300 feet to 3,900 feet above sea level and receive snowfall in the winter. Golan Heights Winery is located in the town of Katzrin in the central Golan.



Victor J. Schoenfeld, Winemaker

% ALC BY VOL	TA	pH
14.5%	5.9 (g/l)	3.55