

CASTORO CELLARS

ESTATE MERLOT 2015

Merlot is one of the main Bordeaux varietals and grows exceptionally well in Paso Robles. This is a great alternative to Cabernet Sauvignon when you are looking for something a tad softer with more elegance.

NIELS AND BIMMER UDSEN, *Owners*

HARVEST NOTES

Spring of 2015 began warm causing early growth causing the harvest to begin before the annual average. The warmth helped the grapes mature beautifully and fully. Inexplicably the yields were unusually low across Paso Robles. The resultant wines are very full in color, flavor and aromas. Truly an exceptional vintage.

WINEMAKER NOTES

The Estate Merlot has beautiful dark fruit and floral aromas. The goal of the oak is to frame the fruit, rather than hide the fruit. A combination of French and American oak barrels add a dark chocolate richness and baking spice. There are ample tannins, but extended oak ages softens them creating an elegant, full wine.

TOM MYERS, *Winemaker*

TASTING NOTES

APPEARANCE: Brick red

AROMA: Blueberries, strawberries, rose petals, dried cherries, dark chocolate

PALATE: Ripe fruit, rich middle, tamed tannins on finish

TECHNICAL NOTES

VARIETAL: 81% Merlot, 8% Petite Sirah, 8% Carignane, 3% Syrah

VINEYARD SOURCES: Vititech, Vista Grande, Whale Rock

AVA: Paso Robles **HARVEST DATE:** Nov. 2015

BOTTLING DATE: May 18, 2017 **HARVEST SUGAR:** 26.7° brix

OAK: French and American **OAK AGE:** 10 months

ALCOHOL: 13.9% **TA:** 0.59 g.100mL **pH:** 3.8



ACCOLADES

GOLD: SF International Wine Competition

86 POINTS: Wine Enthusiast

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