

PETERSON



2015 MERLOT
Bradford Mountain Estate Vineyard
Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County



Jamie's (Peterson) Vintaged View & Vineyard Notes

When we first planted Merlot in our Bradford Mountain Estate Vineyard in the 1980s, it was mostly used as a blending component for our Estate Cabernet Sauvignon and Estate Cabernet Franc. In the mid and late 90s, my father bottled small amounts of Merlot to showcase the delicious depth of flavors capable from this varietal. These wines have held up well for over 20 years.

After a 10-year hiatus of not bottling a varietal Merlot, the quality of the grapes in 2012 convinced us to give this noble variety another round in the spotlight. In years when the grapes from our mountain vineyard are of exceptional depth, we will continue to produce a Merlot to satisfy its fervent fans.

Combining all the soft, plush quality that Merlot is known for with the structure from grapes grown at our mountain vineyard site makes for a wine I am truly proud of and never shy to share at any gathering.

Technical Data

Composition:

<i>Varietal Breakdown</i>	<i>Harvest Dates</i>
92% Merlot	Sept. 9
8% Petit Verdot	Sept. 18
Appellation: Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County	
Vineyard: Bradford Mountain Estate Vineyard	
Alcohol: 15.8%	
pH: 3.48	
TA: 0.65g/100ml	
Barrel Aging: 22 months	
Cooperage: 33% new French oak barrels; 67% 2-4 year-old French oak barrels	
Bottling Date: July 19, 2017 (unfined & unfiltered)	
Production: 50 cases - 750ml bottles	
Release Date: October 2019	

Tasting Notes

Deep, richly textured aromas of dark cherry and ripe black plum woven with inviting smoky oak notes fill the nose. The plush entry spreads across the palate, revealing opulent flavors of cherry, plum and red berry mingled with traces of blueberry, cedar, bay leaf and violet. The velvety texture possesses a spicy quality that adds to the complexity and appeal of this stellar Merlot. Hints of chocolate and tobacco appear as the wine lingers in the finish.

Delicious to enjoy solo, this wine will also pair beautifully with Merlot-braised short ribs served over creamy mashed potatoes, or a simple yet deliciously elegant Carbonara.