

JOEL GOTT

Merlot

CALIFORNIA

VARIETAL:

100% Merlot

APPELLATION:

California

Napa Valley

Sonoma

Central Coast

Lodi

BARREL:

25% new French oak

75% 2-year-old American oak

ALCOHOL:

13.9%

TASTING NOTES:

Our 2015 California Merlot has aromas of blueberry and blackberry with notes of white pepper. On the palate, ripe fruit flavors are complemented by bright, well-balanced acidity, and followed by soft, juicy tannins with a hint of sweet oak on the long, elegant finish.

VINEYARD NOTES:

Fruit from Napa Valley adds complexity and well-balanced acidity. Fruit from the Central Coast, where the vines enjoy a lengthy growing season, added depth of color and well-structured tannins. Because of the warmer than usual weather, fruit clusters from the Lodi and Sonoma vineyards were smaller in size, with good concentration and flavor. Sourcing from these varied regions across California help to create an elegant and well-balanced wine.

HARVEST NOTES:

Across California, the 2015 growing season started with early bud break followed by a cool spring and moderate summer temperatures. Late summer heatwaves created one of the shortest growing seasons to date, causing fruit to be picked early and harvest to end in September.

WINEMAKING NOTES:

Following fermentation, the wine was aged in 25% new French oak and 75% 2-year-old American oak.

