

# JOEL GOTT

## *Merlot*

CALIFORNIA

### VARIETAL:

100% Merlot

### APPELLATION:

California

Napa

Central Coast

Lodi

### BARREL:

25% new French oak

75% 2-year-old American oak

### ALCOHOL:

13.9%

### TASTING NOTES:

Our 2016 California Merlot has aromas of blueberry, plum and cocoa with notes of baking spices, clove and nutmeg. On the palate, dark fruit flavors are complemented by balanced acidity, and concentrated tannins with hints of vanilla and cocoa on the long, elegant finish.

### VINEYARD NOTES:

Fruit from Napa Valley adds complexity, concentration and balanced acidity. Fruit from the Central Coast, where the vines enjoy a lengthy growing season, add color and nicely structured tannins. Lodi experiences warm days which adds rich, fruit flavor and texture. Sourcing from these varied regions across California help to create an elegant and well-balanced wine.

### HARVEST NOTES:

Across California in 2016, bud break came early, preceding a cool spring and moderate summer. Late summer heat waves created one of the shortest growing seasons to date, prompting us to pick our fruit earlier than usual 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.

