

WHITEHALL LANE



2015 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

VINTAGE

2015 was a very typical growing season in Napa Valley. Although the winter was drier than normal, early spring rains brought much needed water to the vineyards as bud break began. Outstanding spring weather was followed by an ideal summer of hot days and cool nights. The Autumn season was very warm and ripened the fruit at a steady pace. All of the Merlot and Cabernet grapes in this blend were harvested over a four-week period from September 12th to October 10th.

WINE

The Merlot grapes were grown at the winery's Estate vineyard in Rutherford and select vineyards from St. Helena and Oak Knoll AVAs in the Napa Valley. The Cabernet Sauvignon came predominantly from Whitehall's Millennium MM vineyard in Rutherford. Whitehall Lane has always utilized the art of blending to make a Merlot with layers of flavors, complexity, and balance. These elements assist with the goal of varietal typicity in creating the perfect Merlot. The fruit was fermented at an average of 85°F with gentle pump-overs for excellent flavor and color extraction. The wine was aged in a combination of French (25% new) and American (10% new) oak barrels for 18 months. The 2015 Merlot was bottled unfined and unfiltered.

NOTES

Dark cranberries and dried cherries burst out of this wine aromatically, coupled with cocoa dust, fresh strawberry jam, cherry cola, pomegranate, and toasted vanilla. On the palate, this Merlot has fine, firm tannins alongside black cherries, red currants, goji berries, and toasted walnuts. It is supple in texture and shows attractive depth on the finish. Enjoy right now and through 2023 with proper cellaring.

WINEMAKER: *Jason Moulton*

APPELLATION: *Napa Valley*

COMPOSITION: *92% Merlot,
8% Cabernet Sauvignon*

ALCOHOL: *14.6%*

CASE PACK: *12/750mL*

SRP: *\$32*

UPC: *0-11628017998*

SCC: *100-11628017995*

ACCOLADES: *90 Points - Wine Enthusiast
Gold Medal - 2018 SF Chronicle Wine Comp.*

1563 ST. HELENA HWY SOUTH • ST. HELENA, CA 94574 • WHITEHALLLANE.COM

