



2015
“Bearly There”
Merlot
Estate - El Dorado

Harvest

75.0% Merlot
20.0% Cabernet Franc
5.0 % Petite Verdot
Harvest date: 12 Sept. 2015
Harvest Brix: 25.5 degrees brix
pH: 3.75
Total Acidity: 0.64 g/100ml

Wine

Alcohol: 14.1%
pH: 3.80
Total Acidity: 0.56 g/100ml
Barrel Aging: 30 months
1/2 new American and
1/2 older French oak
Bottling Date: 6 June 2018
Cases Produced: 50

Winemaking Notes

For the fourth time (in now our fourteenth year) 2015 was a year that the bears and Mother Nature allowed us to make a bold Merlot. 2015 brought us the warm days and cool nights that we needed to perfectly ripen the flavors and retain acidity in the grapes. The must was fermented in small $\frac{3}{4}$ ton lots with a specialty Rhone yeast blend. The wine was then aged a full 30 months in 50% new American oak and 50% older French oak.

Tasting Notes

A dark purple and magenta color leads to deep aromas of cedar, spice and hints of chocolate. Plum impressions in the mouth are extended by a rich and full finish. The wine is supple yet firm in tannins and finishes with lingering blackberry and sweet oak. This wine tastes great right now and will add to any rich cuisine or BBQ fare. With proper storage it should age gracefully for another three years.

Paul