



2017
“Bearly There”
Merlot
Estate - El Dorado

Harvest

75.0% Merlot - Estate
18.0% Cabernet Franc – Estate
7.0% Petite Verdot – Estate
Harvest Date: 5 Sept. 2017
Harvest Brix: 25.5 degrees brix
pH: 3.75
Total Acidity: 0.64 g/100ml

Wine

Alcohol: 14.2%
pH: 3.80
Total Acidity: 0.56 g/100m
Barrel Aging: 32 months
1 – 3 year old French oak
Bottling Date: 30 April 2020
Cases Produced: 44

Winemaking Notes

The 2017 vintage was finally the year the drought cycle broke, temporarily anyway. With the rain finally falling, fruit quality was very good but cold spring weather kept the production down. The must was fermented in small $\frac{3}{4}$ ton lots with a specialty Rhone yeast “GRE”. The wine was then aged a full 36 months in 50% new American oak and 50% older French oak.

Tasting Notes

A dark purple and magenta color leads to deep aromas of ripe plum and new leather with hints of chocolate. Ripe red fruit impressions in the mouth are extended by a rich and full finish. The wine is 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 should age gracefully for another three years.

Paul