



DE LOACH  
VINEYARDS

*The Russian River Valley Original*



**Appellation:**  
Central Coast

**Alcohol:**  
13.5% by volume

**pH:**  
3.67

**Titrateable Acidity:**  
5.54 g/L

## 2012 CENTRAL COAST MERLOT

### In the Vineyard

At DeLoach Vineyards we strive to produce distinctive wines that spotlight unique *terroirs* in a socially and environmentally responsible way, practice sustainable viticulture and utilize minimally intrusive winemaking techniques. The grapes for our 2012 Merlot were carefully chosen from cool, fog-influenced vineyards sustainably farmed throughout the Central Coast AVA.

The 2012 vintage across the Central Coast was the easiest growing season in years with few challenges. A mild spring led to a superb fruit set. Summer and fall brought warm temperatures, but no heat waves. The robust crop and very full cluster development made for an extended growing season. With little to no disease pressure, the clean, elegant, almost crystalline wines show the best balance we have seen since 2009.

### Conversations with the Winemaker

The grapes for our 2012 Merlot were meticulously harvested during the middle of October. The wine underwent a three day cold soak with a three day fermentation that was followed by a three day extended maceration. The wine was then aged in 10% French oak (balance stainless steel) for 9 months.

### Tasting Notes

Opening with aromas of strawberry, raspberry and bright cherry our 2012 Merlot pleases with a touch of mint, spice and pepper on the palate. Balanced, ripe tannins and a silky texture lead to a long enjoyable finish.



*Jean Charles Boisset*

JEAN-CHARLES BOISSET  
Proprietor

*Brian Maloney*

BRIAN MALONEY  
Winemaker