



MERLOT

HERITAGE RESERVE

DE LOACH

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## TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: California ALCOHOL: 13.5% PH: 3.65 TA: 6.5 g/L All of our California appellation wines carry the Heritage designation and reflect our commitment to showcasing the Golden State's sun-drenched terroir.

## IN THE VINEYARD

This wine is made from carefully selected Merlot grapes grown in prestigious, sustainably farmed vineyards across California. Select lots of Merlot were blended to develop complexity before being aged in primarily stainless-steel tanks. A small portion of the wine was aged in seasoned American oak barrels to impart a light oak characteristic while allowing the wine to stay true to its varietal character and retain its approachable, fruit-forward style.

## 2020 VINTAGE

2020 kicked off with ideal growing conditions. Mild temperatures led to evenly developed clusters and an early budbreak was followed by a warm to hot summer. Low winter rains resulted in smaller berries with concentrated flavors. Harvest started in early August and all things pointed to normal yields and exceptional fruit quality.

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

This Merlot is highly aromatic and complex wine features notes of fresh plum, lavender, and cedar, with black cherry and tobacco emerging on the palate. The finish is layered with graham cracker and cocoa. This is a medium bodied wine with a lingering finish and lush mouthfeel.