



2015 Merlot
Pickberry Vineyard
Sonoma Mountain

At only 50 cases made, this is the smallest production in the Smith Story portfolio. Our 2015 single vineyard Merlot from Pickberry possesses notable purity of fruit, brilliant aromatic presence and fabulous balance. Our handwritten tasting notes covered an entire notebook page! An energetic wine filled with grilled fig on the nose with clean, bright Bing cherry flavors circled with espresso, and a hint of anise in a supple, seamless style.

In the Vineyard: The Pickberry Merlot grapes had enormous intensity, complexity and concentration. The Pickberry Vineyard was planted on the north side of Sonoma Mountain and its trellising system spreads out the crop and keeps clusters small which we find makes a finer wine.

Winemaker Notes: The Merlot sang to us from the day we pressed! Treated the same as our Cabernet Sauvignon...the grapes were hand harvested by sunrise and brought to the winery for hand sorting and de-stemming before going into tank for a controlled fermentation. After pressing the wine is then moved to barrel for 20 months in 1-4 year old French Bordeaux barrels.

In the Glass: one word...Gorgeous!

Vineyard location: Sonoma Mountain

Soils: Gravelly loam, volcanic

Harvest Date: September 22, 2015

Aging: 20 months in aged Bordeaux barrels

Details: 14.2% alcohol

Production: 50 cases

SRP: \$54

www.smithstorywinecellars.com