



# 2013 MERLOT

*John Schreiner - 92 Points*  
*Anthony Gismondi - 91 Points*

Sweet vanilla, spice and ripe berry and black plum on the nose. The palate shows more ripe black berries and mocha, balanced with French oak and vibrant acidity. A well balanced and structured wine.

## VINTAGE

The season started strong with a warm April, which led to good conditions for bud break. The drier than normal May set the stage for early flowering and then early ripening throughout the vineyard. The temperatures dipped in September and further in October with a wet first harvest and a rush to find enough traps to keep the swarms of angry wasps at bay. A benign weather system in November allowed for a later harvest of our reds.

## WINEMAKING

Harvest of our three estate vineyard blocks of Merlot began on Oct. 17, 2013. Blocks were harvested individually, broken into small batches, cold soaked on the skins for 4 days and fermented for an additional 21 days on the skins in tank with twice daily pump overs. The resulting individual wines were aged for 18 months in 30% new French oak and blended prior to being bottled, unfiltered.

**BLEND** 100% MERLOT

**CLONES** 181 & 347

**ROOT STOCK** RIPARIA & 3309

**ALC % VOLUME** 14.8%

**PH** 3.62 **TA G/L** 6.5 **RS G/L** 2.9

**CSPC +** 512319