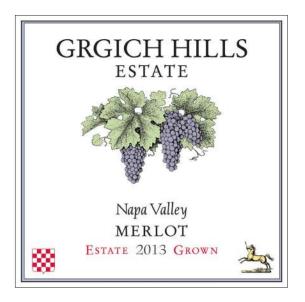
GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

NAPA VALLEY



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Alcohol14.5% by volume
Fermentationindigenous yeast
Skin contactaverage 22 days
Harvest dateSept. 17 - Oct. 2, 2013
Sugar24.5° Brix (average)
Bottling dateApril 8, 2015
Release dateMay 2017
Total acid5.6 g/L
pH3.58
Time in oak18 months
Type of oakFrench oak barrels;
30% new;
70% neutral
Production4,273 cases (12/750 ml.)
Blend100% Merlot

2013 MERLOT

ESTATE GROWN • NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE: The 2013 vintage was nearly perfect, with consistent sunshine and moderate temperatures. After a wet start to winter in 2012, spring was warmer than usual, triggering an early bud break and flowering and fruit set under sunny skies. With only one heat spike in late June/early July, Napa's typical warm days and cool nights created wonderfully flavorful grapes. We started harvesting about two weeks earlier than usual and never seemed to stop, with grapes coming in at a steady pace.

VINEYARD: This cool climate 100% Merlot is grown in our vineyards in southern Napa Valley, within sight of the San Francisco Bay. We blended in a small amount of Merlot from our warmer upper Napa Valley vineyards to craft a complex, balanced wine. Committed to natural winegrowing and sustainability, we farm our five estate vineyards without artificial fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides and they are certified organic.

THE WINE: This is a Cabernet lover's Merlot! Its bright flavors of strawberries, cherries, licorice and a hint of coffee are wrapped in a velvety texture that make your taste buds ask for more! The wine's firm tannins and vibrant acidity create the perfect partner with beef tenderloin, rack of lamb, duck and barbecued pork.