

THE MEEKER VINEYARD



2013 WINEMAKER'S HANDPRINT MERLOT

VARIETALS	85.72% Merlot, 7.14% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7.14% Syrah
APPELLATION	100% Sonoma County. Though the wine is built from fruit in notable appellations: 58.33% Dry Creek Valley 41.67% Alexander Valley
ALCOHOL	14.7%
VINEYARDS	The 2013 Winemaker's Handprint Merlot is an incredible Merlot that exhibits refined structure and elegance. With this vintage we return to a core Merlot blend of two vineyards, one each from Alexander and Dry Creek Valleys. The balance that these two neighbor appellations creates is a core element to the success of this wine. The fruit from Dry Creek lends structure, volume, and rustic structure. The fruit from Alexander Valley results in wine that is elegant and austere. They are better together than they are individually, and the 2013 vintage is an excellent example of that partnership.
TECHNIQUE	Sub-45° F cold soak, 5+ week extended maceration, pumpovers twice daily, 15-22 day cold ferment.
WINEMAKING NOTES	We take great pride in building big, old world style Merlots that reflect the vast potential and quality of this variety. We accomplish this by focusing on structure development, acidity, and proper aging.
BARREL PROGRAM	30 months in mixed once-used and neutral French oak.
BOTTLING	September 2016, 1919 cases
TASTING NOTES	The nose features cherry pie and cola nut with notes of lavender and leather. On the palate this Merlot unfolds with deep structure wrapped around a core of blackberry and red earth giving way to toasted vanilla bean and a long, integrated finish.
WINEMAKERS	Lucas Meeker, Winemaker Charlie Meeker, Co-Winemaker