

# 2015 MERLOT - BENNETT VALLEY

#### OUR ESTATE

For the past four decades, Matanzas Creek Winery has focused on creating site-expressive wines. Throughout the years our methodology has remained the same: utilize a range of vineyard clones and fermentation vessels, and explore new farming and winemaking techniques, to produce thoughtfully crafted, expressive, and balanced wines. Today, all Matanzas Creek Winery estate vineyards are sustainably farmed and are certified under the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance.

### WINEMAKING

Jackson Park demonstrates how a right bank style Merlot can be made domestically. The Petrus Merlot Clone 181 is well suited for the coastal influence of Bennett Valley; summers are warm and nights are cool. Merlot grown here is marked by blue fruit nuances, inky color and texture, and age-worthy acidity.

#### WINE PROFILE

Color: Medium Ruby

**Aromas/Flavors:** Intense aromatics of fresh boysenberries and fresh blueberries. Soft tobacco aromas and a hint of lilac flowers.

Palate: Fresh Satsuma plums, hints of cardamom. There a nice tension in the mouthfeel produce by the smart balance combination of tannins and natural acidity.

### VINTAGE NOTES

The 2015 Vintage was a warm harvest with the driest winter on record in Sonoma County. Roots were active early in the vineyard and bloom occurred two weeks ahead of schedule. Fruit set was light, with small concentrated grape clusters resulting in flavorful, aromatic wines.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

WINEMAKER	APPELLATION Bennett Valley	ALCOHOL	PH
Marcia Torres Forno		14.5%	3.52
COMPOSITION	ÉLEVAGE	TA	R S
100% Merlot, clone 181	35% New French Oak	6.3 g/L	0.4 g/L