



2015 THE POET MERITAGE RED WINE, NAPA VALLEY

The first release of THE Poet was in 1988, and was inspired by the great red blends from Bordeaux. Our red Meritage predates the official formation of the Meritage Alliance.

COMPOSITION

59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Cabernet Franc, 10% Merlot, 5% Malbec, 4% Petit Verdot

TASTING NOTES

Our 2015 The Poet is a beautiful Bordeaux-style Meritage wine revealing a nose of both red and black fruit character. Mocha, molasses and *herbes de Provence* round out the aromatics. The palate is laden with black cherry, dark chocolate and espresso beans while the finish reveals layers of rhubarb and blueberries with hints of toasty oak.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Selected from the best of the best Bordeaux varieties sourced from our Napa Valley vineyards, the fruit was picked at peak ripeness and crafted to each lot's specific style and strengths. The 2015 vintage in Napa Valley was outstanding, albeit a little smaller than we would have liked. A virtually rain-free Spring awoke the vines early, and ripening was accelerated by a warm summer. Harvest was just slightly ahead of "normal" with below average yields of richly flavored, strikingly balanced fruit.

WINEMAKING INFORMATION

OAK AGING: 20 months in French oak, 40% new

VINEYARD DETAILS: 100% Napa Valley; including vineyards in Oakville, Rutherford, Pope Valley and Yountville

ALCOHOL: 14.8%

PRODUCTION: 2,400 6-pack cases