



2016 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

53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot, 17% Petit Verdot, 8% Cabernet Franc

TASTING NOTES

The 2016 THE Poet is a lovely Bordeaux-style Meritage wine revealing a nose of both red and black fruits. Coffee, vanilla, 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 toasted 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. 2016 was another near perfect growing season with idyllic weather throughout the year. Harvest was a bit earlier than usual, and yields were balanced. Most importantly, the quality of fruit was once again impressive, marked by complex aromatics and flavors for this highly-coveted wine.

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: 14.5%

PRODUCTION: 2,700 6-pack cases