



LEAPING
HORSE
VINEYARDS



2017 LEAPING HORSE MERLOT

WINE DATA

Producer
Ironstone Vineyards

Region
Lodi, California

Country
United States

Wine Composition

92% Merlot,
8% Malbec

Alcohol
13.5%

Total Acidity
5.2 G/L

Residual Sugar
.32 G/L

pH
3.56

DESCRIPTION

The 2017 vintage of this Leaping Horse Merlot has violet and dark fruit aromas with pleasant plum, black cherry and a little green olive character in the flavor. Mouth-filling yet smooth, this is “textbook” California Merlot that can pair with just about anything.

WINEMAKER NOTES

This merlot comes from soils that are sandy loam and well drained, allowing the wonderful ripeness to come through to the grapes. The Kautz family has been promoting and working with sustainable viticulture for over 35 years. Leaping Horse practices sustainable viticulture, such as crop reduction, leaf removal, organic materials and drip irrigation to improve the quality of the grapes and intensity of flavors. Cover crops, which attract beneficial insects, are also employed, as well as the placement of owl and wood duck boxes around the vineyards and ponds to help preserve the surrounding habitats. The wine spends three months’ aging in new French oak.

SERVING HINTS

Because of its soft tannins and luscious fruit, Merlot is a delicious wine that’s food-friendly or can be savored by itself. It works with many types of meat or fowl, such as roast turkey or chicken, grilled blackened salmon, pasta with meat sauces, pork, grilled vegetables or a steak salad.