



LEAPING  
HORSE  
VINEYARDS



# 2019 LEAPING HORSE MERLOT

## WINE DATA

Producer  
Ironstone Vineyards

Region  
Lodi, California

Country  
United States

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## Wine Composition

80 % Merlot,  
10% Petit Verdot,  
6% Cabernet  
Sauvignon,  
4% Petite Sirah

Alcohol  
14.5%

Total Acidity  
5.79 G/L

Residual Sugar  
0.8 G/L

pH  
3.61

## DESCRIPTION

The 2019 vintage of this Leaping Horse Merlot has violet and dark fruit aromas with pleasant plum, black cherry and a little bell pepper character. The palate presents with flavors of cherry pie, raspberry, light oak and mint. 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 come through to the grapes. The wine spends three months’ aging in new French oak. The Kautz family has been promoting and working with sustainable viticulture for over 35 years. Crop reduction, leaf removal, organic materials and drip irrigation are used throughout the vineyards to improve the quality and intensity of flavors. Cover crops, which attract beneficial insects are also employed. In addition, owl boxes and wood duck boxes are placed around the vineyards and ponds helping to preserve the surrounding habitats.

## SERVING HINTS

Merlot is a very versatile red that works well with many types of meats. Try this Merlot with roast turkey or chicken, grilled blackened salmon, meat sauced pasta dishes, pork, grilled vegetables or a steak salad.