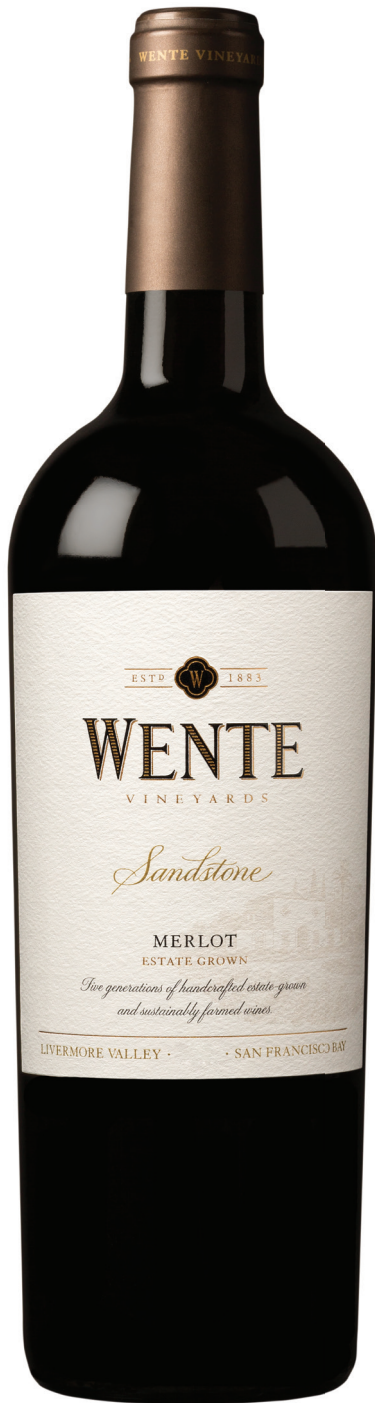




Sandstone

WENTE
VINEYARDS

ESTATE GROWN
MERLOT
LIVERMORE VALLEY · SAN FRANCISCO BAY
2015



“Our Sandstone Merlot is a great display of Bordeaux grapes from hillside and valley floor vineyards, each of which gives distinct aromatics and structure to the wine. The estate grown and certified sustainable vineyards that make up this wine are harvested, fermented and aged separately in barrel for about a year before they are blended together. We add Petite Sirah to the blend which then ages for another 6-12 months. Although lighter in structure than a Cabernet Sauvignon, this Merlot combines solid, yet silky tannins with diverse fruit flavors to make a lasting impression.”

- Karl D. Wente, Fifth Generation Winemaker

VINEYARD

Since 1883, five generations of our family have handcrafted fine wines that express the very best of our vineyards and winemaking expertise. Our Estate Grown Sandstone Merlot comes from a gently sloping formation of hills running along the southeastern corner of the historic Livermore Valley. With warm days, cool nights, well-drained sandstone soils, and incoming breezes from the San Francisco Bay, the Wente family’s hillside vineyard is an ideal place to grow outstanding Merlot and Bordeaux varieties.

WINEMAKING

FERMENTATION Each varietal was fermented separately in upright stainless steel fermenters where they were pumped over 2-3 times daily to maximize extraction. The wine was pressed after 7-12 days on the skins.

AGING The wine was aged for 24 months in French, Eastern European and neutral oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2015 Sandstone Merlot has delicate aromatics from dark cherry, ripe raspberry to cocoa powder. This Merlot is refined and well-balanced with medium to subtle tannins, finishing with a bright acidity.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

85% Merlot, 8% Petite Sirah,
4% Petit Verdot,
3% Cabernet Sauvignon

ALCOHOL 13.5%

pH 3.52

TA 0.61g/100ml

VINTAGE: 2015

HARVEST DATE(S) 9/20-10/12

BRIX AT HARVEST 24.3

RELEASE DATE February 2018

FAMILY OWNED. ESTATE GROWN. CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE.
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