

SWITCHBACK ridge



Switchback Ridge 2016 Merlot

Peterson Family Vineyard, Calistoga, Napa Valley

1,144 cases produced (750 ml)

16 cases produced (1.5 L)

90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon

Aged 16 months in 100% French Oak

Tasting Notes

Enticing red fruit bowl aromas of raspberry, red cherry and cassis are graced with just a hint of savory spice. These flavors flood the palate with a rich mouthful of deliciousness that brings on espresso-like nuances. The structure and balance resolve in a mouth-coating finish that seems to go on forever. ~ Bob Foley, Winemaker

Reviews

JEBDUNNUCK | 2016 Switchback Ridge Merlot Peterson Family Vineyard | 94

I also loved the 2016 Merlot Peterson Family Vineyard. This puppy also comes from a site in the northern part of the Valley. It has a true “wow” nose and offers loads of black cherries, blueberries, chocolate, bay leaf, and assorted tobacco and herbal notes. It has its foot firmly on the ripeness pedal, is full-bodied, deep, and has a stacked mid-palate. It’s a pleasure-bent, seriously good Merlot to drink over the coming decade. - Jeb Dunnuck, 1/31/19

2016 Vintage Notes

The near-perfect 2016 growing season started early with warm temperatures driving the early stages of ripening. The warm and cool temperature rhythm that works so harmoniously in the later ripening stages followed. Consistently warm days at the end of the growing season allowed our fruit to ripen perfectly and gave us a wide window to pick. Yields were back to average and harvest got into full swing by mid-September. The fruit was absolutely impeccable and the resulting 2016 vintage wines are MAGIC! They are strikingly aromatic, possessing full ripeness, great structure and beautiful balance. They have the dark fruit flavor profiles of 2013, but the softer, more elegant tannin structure and mouthfeel of 2014. These wines are stunning now and will only continue to get better with bottle age, not to mention they clearly have the stamina to last for decades.

