

SHOOTING STAR MERLOT 2016

VINEYARDS

We are always on the lookout for classic varieties planted in ideal locations. The red volcanic soils, ample sunshine, almost no fog and the 1500 foot plus elevation and cool night temperatures, all add up to a wonderful place to grow red grapes. We harvest Merlot from the Dorn family and our estate Silva Vineyard in the Kelsey Bench AVA.

WINE STYLE & TASTING NOTE

Merlot has always been a strong performer in Lake County. The wines are better structured and denser than a typical Merlot. We aged this wine in a combination of French and American oak for 8 months. Keeping in line with the fruit forward, easy drinking character of our Shooting Star wine, this wine has aromas of black fruits, cherry, with slight earthiness and spice. Flavors are of ripe plum and cassis, finishing with a slight oak to round out the tannins.

FOOD PAIRINGS

Serve with grilled Italian sausage, baked pasta such as lasagna, stuffed portabella mushroom, or a burger.

TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION Lake County, CA **ALCOHOL** 14.2% **PH** 3.74
TA 0.58g/100mL **RS** 0.01g/L **BARREL AGING** 8 months in French and American **VINE AGE** Avg. 15 years **YIELDS** 3-4 tons per acre
PRODUCTION 950 cases **MSRP** \$15.00

