

ANCIENT PEAKS

v. 2016 **MERLOT**

PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA | SANTA MARGARITA RANCH



ACCOLADES

- | | |
|--|---------|
| "90 POINTS"
Wine Advocate | v. 2016 |
| "GOLD"
2017 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition | v.2014 |
| "90 POINTS"
Wine Review Online | v. 2013 |
| "90 POINTS"
San Francisco International Wine Competition | v. 2012 |
| "89 POINTS...TOP 100 BEST BUYS OF THE YEAR..."
Wine & Spirits | v. 2010 |
| "BEST OF THE WEST"
Wine Spectator | v. 2009 |
| "90 POINTS"
The Tasting Panel | v. 2008 |
| "90 POINTS...EDITOR'S CHOICE"
Wine Enthusiast | v. 2007 |

TASTING NOTES

The 2016 Merlot is loaded with bold aromas of violets, dried cherries, toasty oak and spice. This is a Merlot of depth and dimension on the palate, offering rich, layered black fruit flavors interwoven with nuances of blueberry, pomegranate, vanilla and sweet tobacco. A velvety texture is framed by sturdy yet supple tannins on the finish.

CUISINE PAIRING

The deeply structured 2016 vintage is favorable match for rich, flavorful fare. Recommended pairings include beef tenderloin, braised short ribs, grilled lamb chops, pan-seared duck breast and mushroom risotto.