

## MERLOT 2017



### VINEYARD & VINTAGE

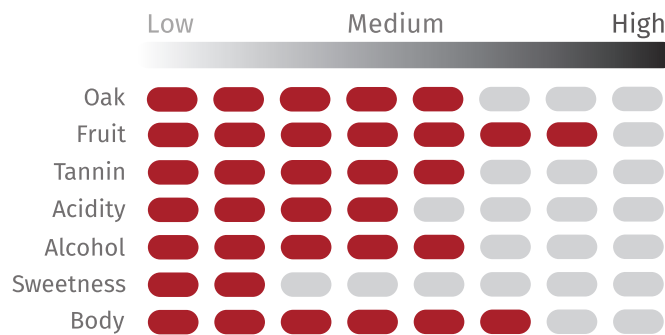
In the heart of the Paso Robles AVA, you will find our estate nestled deep in the Geneseo District where Bordeaux varietals reign supreme. Our special, small production Merlot is spread out over just a few rows, taking up only 2 of our 40 acres. We look over these 19-year-old vines carefully on a daily basis, making sure we hand-harvest at exactly the right hour of the perfect day to achieve optimum acid and sugar levels in the grapes. This varietal is highly susceptible to bunch rots, so it is imperative that it be treated with attentive care. At Bianchi Vineyards, we also shoot-thin the vineyard in the springtime to control crop levels to about 3 tons per acre. An overcropped vineyard can produce very weak wine, so by practicing this technique, we can be sure our Merlot harvest will be of the utmost exceptional quality, and produce a concentrated, extracted, age-worthy wine.

### REGION & VARIETAL COMPOSITION



### TASTING & PAIRINGS

Our Estate grown Merlot presents itself first with a warm, spicy nose and a hint of juicy red currant and bay leaf. Take a sip for a burst of black cherry, ripe plum and raspberry, and a hint of clove with a soft and sweet mocha finish.



Pair this beautiful 2017 Merlot with aged goat cheese, barbecued chicken, bucatini with a creamy red sauce and wild mushrooms, a rustic ratatouille, or a filet mignon with a peppercorn red wine sauce.