



## *Fratelli Perata Winery*

### **Fratelli Perata 2016 Merlot, Estate**

Due to the continued drought in California the 2016 Merlot is loaded with bold aromas of dried cherries and toasty oak coupled with spice. Deep in color this vintage offers balanced acidity and tannin, with the full-bodied mouth feel you come to expect from our Merlot. Due to the heat in 2016, the grapes were ready early and the Merlot came in fast, we experienced a bit lower acidity making this velvety and elegant. Enjoy with Pesto Mushroom Lasagne.

Harvested: September 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Brix: 24.9

pH: 3.68

Fermented: 13 days in 1.5 ton stainless steel fermenters

Pressed: Into American oak barrels

Alcohol: 14.6%

Bottled: March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Production: 138 cases

Aging: Lay down at least 3 months and then for a few years to almost 20, if you can wait, but if you want it now, let breathe for a few hours and pair with a robust dish. Drink Fall 2020 to 2030.