



# FLANAGAN

2015 MERLOT, *Bennett Valley*  
Sonoma County



HARVEST DATE September 15, 2015

PH 3.57

TA 6.1

CASES PRODUCED 80

RELEASE DATE September 21, 2017

## PRODUCTION NOTES

The 2015 Vintage provided beautiful fruit. Because of a cool foggy spring we had very low crop yields. This resulted in especially concentrated fruit from the steep hillsides in Bennett Valley. We harvested our 2015 Merlot on September 13th, which, was even earlier than 2014. The volcanic hillsides that are the source for our Merlot produce very small berries that have tremendous intensity and structure. Farming at the highest level, picking for balance, and making the wine with minimal intervention all contribute to what we believe is one of the top Merlot wines made in California.

Winemaker Cabell Coursey approaches the Merlot with the attitude that the site makes the wine special and capturing that in the bottle is his job.

## TASTING NOTES

The 2015 has beautiful floral notes intertwined with more savory herbal notes. The palate has a ripe red and black fruits, savory bay leaf, earth notes, and lots of structure. The acidity provides beautiful delineation and tension in the mouth. The small berries from the steep hillside sites gives the wine great color and concentration.

This is a generous, age worthy, world class Merlot.