



2016 HOWELL MOUNTAIN ESTATE MERLOT

Three Tears Vineyard | Howell Mountain | Napa Valley



Vineyard Notes:

Our Howell Mountain Estate Merlot is produced from our Three Tears Vineyard on the Eastern slope of Howell Mountain. With elevation that ranges from 1,600 to 2,100 feet above sea level, this estate vineyard sits on a 160 acre estate of which thirteen acres are planted in Cabernet Sauvignon and three in Merlot. The rocky volcanic soils and weather conditions are challenging, but worth the extra effort as the vineyards produce wines with outstanding flavor, intensity and aging properties.

Vintage Notes:

The near-perfect 2016 growing season started early, saw ideal weather conditions throughout and wrapped up as the valley's first significant fall rainstorm arrived on October 14. Thanks to a relatively steady and mild July and August and then a series of warm days at the end of the growing season, vineyards were able to progress to perfect ripeness.

Winemaker's Notes:

Our Howell Mountain Merlot opens with aromas of dark cherry, cedar wood, strawberry preserves, and peppermint tea. On the palate, this intense yet elegant full-bodied Merlot showcases a core of rich red and blue fruit with hints of warm espresso, freshly ground black pepper, and dark chocolate. Pair with a hearty Cassoulet, fennel pollen-encrusted pork loin, or a smoky coal-roasted eggplant.

Blend:	100% Merlot
Barrel Aging:	20 Months
	100% French Oak; 65% New
Appellation:	Howell Mountain
Production:	45 Cases
Alcohol:	14.7%

