

PALOMA



MERLOT

In 2003, Paloma Vineyard's 2001 Merlot was chosen by the Wine Spectator as the Wine of the Year out of over 15,000 wines from around the world. Since 2003, Paloma Merlot has been in the Wine Spectator TOP 100 two more times—in 2004 for the 2002 vintage (54th) and in 2008 for the 2006 vintage (65th)—as well as received an honorable mention from Wine Spectator's James Laube in 2012 for the 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon. Paloma Vineyard estate fruit is picked in multiple small lots, from late September to mid-November and is hand-crafted in the same small lots. The 2015 is 86% Merlot and 14% Cabernet Sauvignon. It is fermented and then aged in French oak—33% new—for 18 months before being bottled in the spring and bottle-aged for an additional 30 months.

The **2015 Paloma Merlot** fills the glass with a dense, ruby colored offering that offers up notes of ripe red plums, currants, blackberries, and a hint of menthol. In the mouth, this is a sumptuous effort, with a dense, even chewy mouthfeel that presents wave after wave of ripe fruit, and the omnipresent mocha, chocolate notes so consistent with Paloma's mountain fruit. The finish is simply sublime. Drinking beautifully upon release, this 2015 Merlot possesses the structure and backbone to offer years of continued, evolving enjoyment.

AVA	Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley	Vintage	2015
Blend	86% Merlot / 14% Cabernet Sauvignon	Alcohol	14.8%
Cooperage	33% new French oak (Nadalié)	Production	565 cases
Bottled	May 2017	Released	Jan 2019

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