



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 2016 is 85% Merlot and 15% 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 **2016 Paloma Merlot** is a big, world-class red wine capable of improving with bottle aging for 10 to 15 years. Complex aromas of black berry fruits, black stone fruits, chocolate, tobacco, spice, and floral notes with a mineral overtone. On the palate the wine has a big silky mouth feel, well balanced, with flavors of berries, fruit, cocoa, cassis, and spice, and a long spicy finish.

AVA	Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley	Vintage	2016
Blend	85% Merlot / 15% Cabernet Sauvignon	Alcohol	14.8%
Cooperage	33% new French oak (Nadalié)	Production	910 cases
Bottled	May 2018	Released	Aug 2020