

# SEXTANT 2017 ESTATE MERLOT



**APPELLATION:** Paso Robles, California

**WINEMAKING:** This once underappreciated varietal is making a comeback, and our RBZ Vineyard has the perfect climate for growing Merlot! Hand picked and then fermented on the skins for two weeks, we pump this Merlot over twice per day during fermentation to extract maximum color and aromatics. This vintage was aged in 20% new French oak for 18 months.

**TASTING NOTES:** Polished and well-focused, the 2017 Merlot features lively cherries and red currants. Clay pot and vanilla are evident on the nose. Hints of anise and sage at the edges add nuance. Limber tannins and moderate acidity deliver approachability, but not without finesse. The finish slowly dissipates with pleasant twinges of the profile.

<b>TECHNICAL NOTES:</b>	pH - 3.68
Malolactic Fermentation - 100%	Residual Sugar - .002g/100mL
Total Acidity - .608g/100mL	Alcohol - 14.6%

**SUGGESTED AGING:** Enjoy now or cellar through 2028



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