



2015 MERLOT

San Luis Obispo County, California

VINEYARDS

Vintage Cowboy Winery was inspired by our family heritage of cowboys, western lifestyle, and our love for ranching in San Luis Obispo County. We believe in cowboy values and keeping the western way of life alive. Vintage Cowboy is a family owned and operated winery.

For five generations the Arnold family has lived and worked on the original ranch land in San Luis Obispo County, CA , raising beef cattle, horses, and farming a variety of crops. We planted our 32 acre vineyard in 1995. The vineyard sits beneath the Santa Lucia Mountain Range about 14 miles from the Pacific ocean where it benefits from the coastal influence coming through the mountain passes. Our terrior is roughly 10 miles from the Edna Valley AVA and about 35 miles Southeast of the Paso Robles AVA which creates an extreme temperature fluctuation during the growing season resulting in uniquely flavorful wines.

GROWING SEASON

2015 was a challenging year in the vineyard. High winds during flowering in the spring and the drought led to an overall decrease in yields. Although the yields were small, the growing conditions created small clusters with tiny berries that were heavily concentrated with fruit forward flavors. To ensure quality and uniformity of ripeness we pick all of the grapes either early morning or at night. With such a small harvest we devoted extra attention to the fruit we were able to collect to allow peak extraction of the dark fruit characteristics.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

This rustic and rich Merlot has a dark berry nose with hints of chocolate and espresso. It carries notes of blackberry, black plum, toasted oak and raspberry. The soft tannin structure pairs well with spice undertones of clove, nutmeg and roasted vanilla.

APPELLATION

San Luis Obispo County, Ca

HARVEST DATE

09.15.15

AVERAGE BRIX AT HARVEST

24.5°

FERMENTATION/BARREL AGING

Aged For 22 Months In American. (25% New American Oak)

ALCOHOL

15.2%