

2011
Westerly Merlot



AVA: Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara

COMPOSITION: 79% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Malbec, 5% Petit Verdot

WINEMAKING NOTES: Harvested in mid-October, the grapes were hand-sorted, destemmed, and fermented as whole berries in small, open top stainless steel fermenters. The wine was drained and pressed after 28 days on the skins, and the wine was filled into 225 liter French oak barrels, 60% of which were new. Malolactic fermentation took place in barrel. The wine was racked to blend after 12 months, and remained in barrel for a total of 18 months. Bottled unfinned & unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES: The 2011 Westerly Merlot exhibits a palate of rich, brambly fruit along with dried herbs, and notes of black olive and anise seeds. Structured and balanced, this wine will drink at it's peak from 2014-2018.