FLANAGAN **2014 MERLOT**



HARVEST DATE September 16, 2014
PH 3.57
TA 6.1
BARREL REGIMEN 24% new French oak, Taransaud and Boutes
CASES PRODUCED 103
RELEASE DATE September 30, 2016

PRODUCTION NOTES

The 2014 vintage provided beautiful fruit. It was an early year with great weather throughout the growing season. We harvested our Merlot on September 16th, which was one of the earliest harvests on record. The steep hill sides that are the source for our Merlot produce intense fruit with tremendous structure and concentration. Farming at the highest level, picking for balance, and making the wine with minimal intervention all contribute to what we believe is one of the top Merlot wines made in California.

Winemaker Cabell Coursey approaches the Merlot with the attitude that the site makes the wine special and capturing that in the bottle is his job.

TASTING NOTES

The 2014 has the distinctive floral notes that are typical of our Merlot. The palate has a ripe red fruits, some savory herb notes (bay leaf) and lots of structure. The acidity provides beautiful delineation and tension in the mouth. The small berries from the steep hillside sites gives the wine great color and concentration.