

Marilyn Wines

18th
PASO ROBLES MERLOT

Norma Jeane™
2015

Winemaker Notes

Making a young Merlot requires a coordinated effort on the part of the vineyard staff and the winemaker, to grow the grapes and make wine with the knowledge that the wine is slated for early release. One is immediately struck with the rich, deep, purple color of the 2015 Merlot. There is nice intensity of aromas with raspberries, red currants, and plums and hints of spice and cedar notes. The flavors mimic the aromas with a rich medium body and good weight on the palate. We really love this one and it's time to say, "I'll have a glass of 2015 Norma Jeane."

The Vineyards

For only the second time, we've used 100% Merlot from area known as the 'Estrella Triangle' which is in the heart of the Paso Robles AVA. The vineyard is sustainably farmed and is 17 years of age. The grapes were harvested at 25.8 brix and the wine was made to our specifications.

The wine was bottled April 7, 2016.

The Vintage

Four years of drought and unseasonably cold, windy and cloudy weather in May, greatly impacted berry set. Fortunately, weather during veraison was mild, preserving color development. This very warm year in concert with the extremely small crop size prompted an early harvest start. One silver lining is the very high quality red wines, with color densities the highest seen in more than a decade.

Pairing

This Norma Jeane, is a natural with pizza, paninis, and pasta.

Photograph

By Bruno Bernard, you see a 20-year-old Norma Jean with an eager smile and wide eyes, doing pinup poses with a very un-pinup expression. This was from Bruno Bernard's first sitting with her in 1949 and it got Norma Jeane her first studio screen test and motion picture contract.



UPC: 852600004038

Grapes: 100% Merlot
Appellation: Paso Robles AVA
Harvested: Early September 2014
Sugar: .16 Dry
pH: 3.78
Total Acid: 0.53g/100ml
Alcohol: 12.5%

www.marilynwines.com

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