

Norma Jeane™

Marilyn™ Wines



2016

## Merlot Paso Robles, CA

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### The Grapes:

The Merlot grapes that we used to make the wine were grown at a vineyard located in an area known as the Estrella Triangle which is in the heart of the Paso Robles appellation. The vineyard is sustainably farmed and is 16 years of age. The vineyard is trained on a bi-lateral cordon with VSP trellis. Harvest was on September 22, 2016.

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### The Vintage:

During the growing season the Paso Robles AVA is typically sunny with warm daytime temperatures. The temperatures drop nicely at night and this offers the opportunity for great wine grape production. We enjoyed a nice length of hang time for the fruit. This rewarded us with one of our finest Norma Jeane Merlots to date.

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Alc 13.9% Brix 24.8 Sugar .14 (dry) pH 3.72 Total Acid .53 g/100mL

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### Winemaker Notes:

One is immediately struck with the rich, deep, garnet color of the 2016 Merlot. There is nice intensity of aromas with fresh red raspberries, plums and hints of orange blossoms, orange zest and sage. The flavors mimic the aromas with a rich medium body and well-balanced on the palate with a pleasing clean finish.

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### The Photograph:

Marilyn flashes her All-American smile while posing in a stripe bathing suit with a beach towel around her hair in 1949. Johnny Hyde fell head over heels in love with Marilyn but this was a one-sided love affair. But Johnny was responsible for making her a star. By the end of 1950, Marilyn had six films in release due to Johnny's efforts.

