

2012 MERLOT

VINEYARD NOTES

Grown in the heart of California's Central Coast, our vineyards are greatly influenced by maritime breezes. Warm midday sun and breezy afternoons throughout the growing season provide the perfect arena to produce bright and lush fruit. The majority of our Merlot comes from vineyards located in the El Pomar district of Paso Robles, which is known for its loamy soils and unique microclimate. The remainder of the Merlot comes from cooler sites in Santa Barbara County that offer fruit with rich complexity.

HARVEST NOTES

The 2012 growing season in California's Central Coast was a welcome surprise after two years of moderate harvests. Growers harvested a record crop across the state, not only from a quantity standpoint, but quality as well. Though rainfall wasn't overly abundant, the vines seemed to flourish and produced a bountiful crop. With no major frost events, a long growing season helped a wonderful fruit set. The late September and early October harvest for Merlot was flawless.

WINEMAKING NOTES

After our Merlot was harvested and crushed, it was fermented in stainless tanks for 11 days where daily pump overs enhanced color and tannin extraction. After fermentation, the wine was transferred to French & American oak barrels (15% 1-3 years old) and aged for 12 months. The wine was racked twice during barrel-aging and cross-flow filtered prior to bottling in March 2014.

TASTING NOTES

The 2012 Liberty School Merlot displays beautiful aromas of violet and black cherry. On the palate, the wine is fruit forward with surprising structure, showcasing a clean minerality and engaging fruit flavors of plum, cherry and raspberry that are present from start to finish. It's a classic Merlot with velvety-fine tannins and a long, silky finish.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Varietal: Merlot

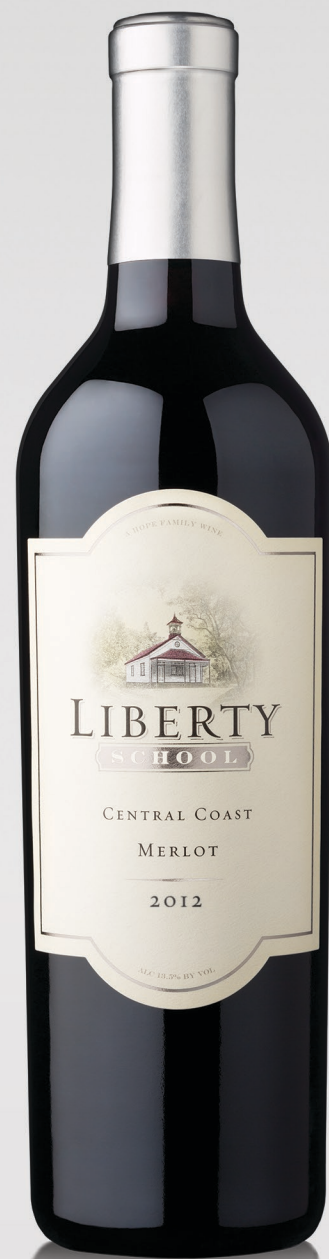
AVA: Central Coast

Total Acidity: 0.63 g/100ml

pH: 3.73

Alcohol : 13.50%

Production: 13,601 cases



LIBERTY SCHOOL

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QUALITY REPUTATION FOR OVER 30 YEARS · FRUIT GROWN BY FAMILY FARMERS


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