

CANDOR

Merlot

LOT 1

Straightforward winemaking doesn't have to mean ordinary wine. At Candor, we believe that better grapes make better wine. Careful winemaking preserves fruit character; skillful blending builds in complexity. By using multi-vintages, we can make a better, more complete and pleasing wine. Candor offers high quality, affordable California red wines. That's it. No tricks. No gimmicks. Just sincere varietal expression.

BLEND

100% Merlot

VINEYARDS

In California, the land rush for Merlot plantings in the early 1990's yielded an abundance of grapes grown in the wrong places, usually too warm. A third-generation farmer, Candor winemaker Austin Hope has done his homework. From Paso Robles to Santa Barbara County, he recognizes knowledge and talent among farmers who grow grapes of exceptional quality. Candor Merlot is a blend of fruit from coastal vineyards. Strongly influenced by the climate of the Pacific coastline, grape clusters ripen through a season of warm sunlit days cooled by gentle ocean breezes.

HARVEST

Mid-October

BARREL PROGRAM

Aged for 12 – 17 months in 50% French oak and 50% American oak barrels; 25% of the barrels were new oak.

TASTING NOTES

Candor Merlot displays classic plummy, dark stone fruit, spice and a hint of smoke, with just enough grip on the finish to round out the package. The maturity and development of the base vintage is balanced by a youthful splash of freshness from the next. The wine is complex, subtle and a wonderfully inviting companion to food.

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Candor wines. Truth defined.