

## MERLOT 2021



### VINEYARD & VINTAGE

In the heart of the Paso Robles AVA, you will find our estate nestled deep in the Geneseo District where Bordeaux varietals reign supreme. Our special, small production Merlot is spread out over just a few rows, taking up only 2 of our 40 acres. We look over these 20 year-old vines carefully on a daily basis, making sure we hand-harvest at exactly the right hour of the perfect day to achieve optimum acid and sugar levels in the grapes.

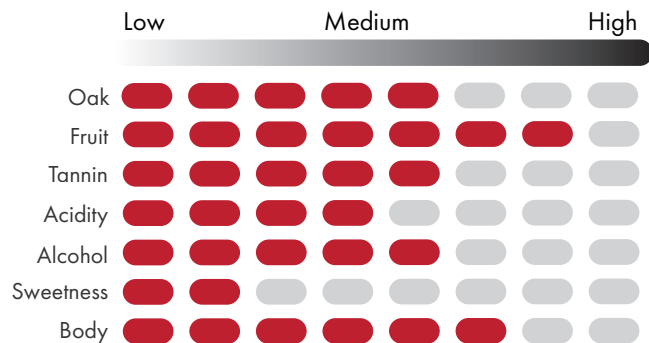
This is the last vintage of Estate grown Merlot for Bianchi Vineyards—and what a vintage it is! “Our 2021 vintage of estate Merlot reminds one of what a great Merlot can be!” exclaims our Winemaker, Todd Weiher. Despite the big hit Merlot took as a result of the movie *Sideways*, it remains the most planted grape in the Bordeaux region and grows phenomenally in Paso Robles. In the Geneseo District, we had another year of low yielding vines in our Merlot block, resulting in concentrated and intense fruit with superior quality.

### REGION & VARIETAL COMPOSITION



### TASTING & PAIRINGS

Our 2021 Bianchi Estate Merlot is a captivating expression of a classic varietal. With its alluring aromatics, rich fruit profile, and well-integrated oak influence, this Merlot exemplifies the potential of the region. Upon the first inhale, the nose is greeted by a symphony of aromas that effortlessly interweave. Ripe black cherries dance harmoniously with notes of red currant and plums, creating a medley of luscious dark fruits. On the palate, the initial sip reveals layers of blackberry jam, dark chocolate and a touch of espresso. Next, secondary hints of toasted oak and baking spices emerge, adding complexity and depth to the overall flavor profile.



This wine's balanced structure and luxurious mouthfeel make it a versatile companion for a wide range of culinary dishes, from hearty roasted meats and vegetables to artisanal cheeses. Enjoy this wine now to savor its youthful exuberance, or consider cellaring a few bottles to witness its graceful evolution over the years. Cheers to a true testament of Paso Robles terroir in every sip!