



# GRANITE HILL CELLARS

## 2016 Lodi Merlot



**About:** Granite Hill Cellars is a newly released brand by the Kautz Family of Lodi, California. The name comes from the rocky and “granite” terroir the family’s vineyards grow on. The soft rolling hills, in conjunction with the Pacific Ocean Delta breezes make these vineyards ideal for grapes of distinction. Practicing “sustainability” for over 30 years, the family is committed to the longevity of their land and the environment around them.

**Appellation:** Lodi has been a famed region for growing Zinfandel grapes for many years, but it has been the last 10-15 years that they are shining through with other varieties, including Merlot. The sub-AVA for this wine comes from Sloughhouse, which is located in the northern part of Lodi, just west of the Sierra Foothills.

**About the Wine:** The 2016 vintage displays aromas of black cherries and black plums with a light vanilla spice. Flavors of juicy dark fruits, sweet vanilla oak and a simple cedar lead to a finish that is full and mouth-filling.

**Pairing:** Delicious as an aperitif, but also when enjoyed with creamy pasta dishes, such as Alfredo or a fresh red tomato sauce. Split pea soup with sweet ham, rolled turkey, smoked salmon and barbecued chicken all are wonderful accompaniments.

### Technical Notes:

Blend: 78% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Tannat	
Alcohol: 13.5%	Aging: 3 months, new French oak
RS: 1.5 g/l	TA: 5.9 g/l
pH: 3.42	UPC: 7 24826 05251 6