

# IRONSTONE

*Vineyards*

## 2014 LODI MERLOT

### Winemaker Notes

The Ironstone 2014 Merlot is bursting with luscious fruit and soft tannins with excellent drinkability. Rich, ripe black cherry and black plums leads to a hint of vanilla and toast. Flavors of currants with juicy dark fruit and spicy cedar end with a rounded, well-balanced and complex finish.

### Vineyard Notes

Merlot grapes, for this vintage, were grown in several of Lodi's sub-appellations. These different locations provide diverse soils and climate that, when combined, create a

more complex wine than one vineyard alone.

### Sustainable Viticultural Practices

At Ironstone, we use crop reduction, leaf removal, organic materials, and drip irrigation to improve the quality and intensity of flavors. Cover crops, which attract beneficial insects, are also employed. In addition, we place owl and wood duck boxes around the vineyards and ponds helping to preserve the surrounding habitats.

### Serving Suggestions

Our Merlot has a softer, fleshier, fruit-forward style

that complements many dishes. Try it with baked pasta dishes such as lasagna, spicy rice dishes such as jambalaya, hearty bean dishes with bacon or smoked ham, roast turkey and even blackened salmon or other dense fish in a tomato-based sauce.

### Technical Information

Appellation: Lodi

Blend:  
89% Merlot  
11% Cabernet Franc

Alcohol: 13.5%  
TA: 6.1 grams/liter  
pH: 3.34  
RS: 1.7 g/l

Aging:  
Two months in new French oak

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