

# WATERSTONE

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## 2016 MERLOT NAPA VALLEY

### Vintage

*The 2016 vintage was near-perfect in Napa Valley. The growing season had an early start and ideal weather throughout. Harvest was ideally paced, with vineyards ripening in a cycle that allowed successive picking at targeted ripeness. The resulting wines are showing great balance and intensity of flavor.*

### Vineyards

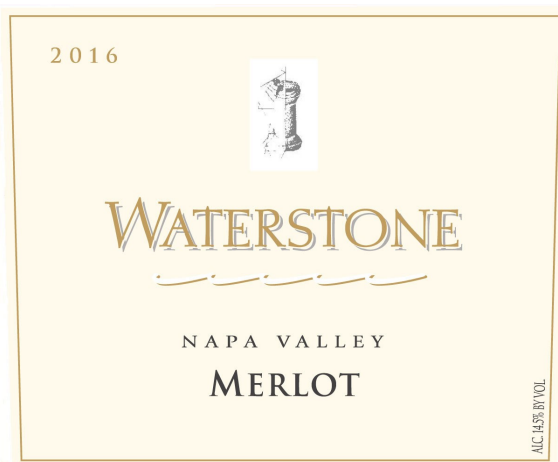
*The backbone of this Merlot is derived from the Truchard Vineyard in Carneros, where 85% of the grapes are sourced from a relatively cool region. The balance of Merlot fruit is sourced from the Sunseri Vineyard in Chiles Valley, adding layers of bright fruit to the palate. The small berry clusters and intense fruit from low-yielding vines create a wine with full flavor and longevity. Both vineyards are under long-term contracts, providing consistency from vintage to vintage.*

### Vinification

*Vineyards were hand-picked at the peak of maturity. Following harvest, the grapes were gently crushed and fermented. The wines were then aged in small French oak barrels with extended lees contact for 18 months. Only 15% new barrels were used to maintain maximum fruit flavors with just a hint of toasty oak.*

### Tasting Notes

*Ripe plum, cola, vanilla and cocoa on the nose. Medium-bodied with silky tannin and flavors of juicy black cherries persist on the finish.*



### Technical Data:

Varietal Composition	95% Merlot 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
Appellation	Napa Valley
Alcohol	14.7%
TA	0.67g/100ml
pH	3.48
Oak Aging	24 months
Oak Cooperage	French oak, 15% new
Bottling Date	July 16, 2019
Production	676 cases