

# FRANCIS COPPOLA

DIAMOND COLLECTION

*"The inspiration for the Diamond Collection was a bottle of 1906 Claret we found in the cellar of the Napa Valley property we purchased in 1975. I designed a new label reminiscent of this old bottle and created the Diamond Collection Black Label Claret, which is our company's most recognized offering. Today, Diamond Collection includes 13 varietals, each identified with a brightly colored label. The quality and authenticity of Diamond Collection is extremely important because we are a family company and our name is on the label. As such, you can trust that we'll always give you the very best."*

—Francis Ford Coppola

## FRANCIS COPPOLA DIAMOND COLLECTION 2015 MERLOT

Diamond Collection wines are classic California expressions that offer fruit-forward, multi-dimensional flavor and immediate drinkability. With Merlot the objective is to create a wine that has structure and complexity, but soft, smooth tannins. We accomplish this by blending fruit from several different appellations including Paso Robles, Sonoma, and Monterey County. Our Paso Robles grapes lend sweet, fresh fruit qualities, spice notes and an earthy character; our Sonoma fruit contributes natural acidity to create more balance and finesse; and Monterey County grapes provide richness and concentration.

### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

We came off an early vintage in 2014 only to have an even earlier season in 2015. Limited rainfall in the spring helped reduce yields and give us small berries, which in turn provided a little more density on the palate as well as a little more tannin. Medium-bodied and well structured, our 2015 Merlot has flavor intensity, a plush texture, and elegant oak nuances.

### TASTING PROFILE

*Appearance* Red violet  
*Aromas* Cherries, huckleberries, spiced wood, vanilla  
*Flavors* Red currants, plums, mocha, crème brulee



Corey Beck, Winemaker



<i>Appellation</i>	California
<i>Blend</i>	85% Merlot 15% Petite Sirah
<i>Alcohol</i>	14%
<i>Total Acid</i>	.60g/100ml
<i>pH</i>	3.70
<i>Barrel Regimen</i>	11 months French oak
<i>Released</i>	September 2016