

STREET WINERY

2015 Merlot

Technical Information:

Appellation	VQA Creek Shores
Vineyard(s)	Lakeshore Farm Vineyard
Grape Variety(ies)	Merlot 100%
Brix at Harvest	22.0 average
Alcohol Content	13%
Residual Sugar	10 grams /litre
Total Production	339 cases



TASTING NOTES

Bright and youthful ruby-red in the glass with a classic nose of ripe damson plum and spice, with a touch of vanilla from the oak. Rich and ripe on the palate with light tannins and balancing acidity, leading to a long finish.

Certainly enjoyable on release with grilled meats, hard cheeses and tomato-based pastas or pizzas, or cellar for the medium-term for added complexity.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were hand harvested in early October exclusively from the Lakeshore Farm Vineyard to the northeast of the winery. After manual sorting on shaker tables to remove any unwanted fruit, leaves or insects, the grapes were crushed and destemmed and fermented in stainless steel tanks with regular pumping over to extract colour and structure. After 30 days skin contact, the wine was pressed and 1/3 was transferred to one second-use and one third-use 500 litre French oak tonneaux while the other 2/3 remained in stainless steel tanks. After malolactic fermentation, the wine remained in tonneaux and tank until it was bottled in May 2016 following light fining and filtration.

VINTAGE NOTES

The winter of 2014/2015 can best be described as extreme with some of the coldest prolonged periods on record throughout the Niagara Peninsula, damaging buds across varieties leading to a naturally low yield for the 2015 vintage. The cold lasted well into early spring which led to a relatively late bud-burst. Luckily once the summer finally started it was warm, sunny and relatively dry. The beautiful weather lasted well into the fall, allowing for even ripening across all varieties. With the naturally low yields from the winter cold, the wines from the vintage show great concentration and varietal correctness, with typical Niagara acidity and freshness, leading to very high quality wines across the portfolio, though produced in extremely limited quantities.