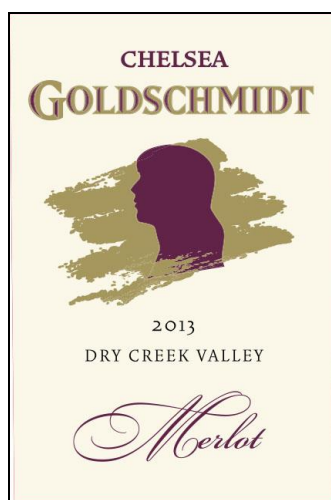


2013

CHELSEA GOLDSCHMIDT
DRY CREEK VALLEY
MERLOT

Vintage: 2013
Appellation: Dry Creek Valley 100%
Release Date: October 2015
Varietal: 100% Merlot
Vineyard: Chelsea, 4 acres
Yield: 3.5 ton/acre
Clone: 337
pH: 3.60
Total Acidity: 5.7g/l
Alcohol: 14.5%
ML Complete: Yes
Filtered: Yes
Fined: No
Aging: 60% French
 20% American
 20% Hungarian
 1 Year, 20% new
Production: 1,080 cases



Nick Goldschmidt loves to make wine from Dry Creek. In an area known for great Zinfandel and Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot from Dry Creek can equally impress. Nick Goldschmidt sourced the fruit for this delicious wine from vineyards located near his residence in the down valley area. The valley's river soils provide just enough water retention to ward off dehydration but not enough to permit the vigorous Merlot variety to over-produce. Cane-pruning further ensures desired sugar and tannin levels.

Vintage Notes:

One of the best vintages in 30 years in Dry Creek. Great season, warmer than 2012, but a moderate one with no heat spikes and grape dehydration. Bud break was early for this vintage. We experienced a warm June but a cool July that perfectly balanced the vines. August was perfect. Minimal rains were followed by steady winds that dried the grapes. We picked the beginning of September. We came through the vintage unscathed. The flavors were mature and complex with fully ripened tannins. The wines are delicious and will be the perfect complement to the quality we saw in 2012. The wines are lush and dense with great complexity.

Winemaker Comments: "When people look for a Merlot they are seeking out a wine that has depth and volume of fruit in the mouth. Too often Merlot under-delivers with dry tannins and a distinct lack of fruit. What I look for in making this wine is a Cabernet-type merlot--one that is full and ripe and totally over-delivers. Fresh fruit is the order of the day but one with depth and complexity that only comes from great vineyards and meticulous winemaking." –Nick Goldschmidt

Tasting Notes:

Ripe black cherry, anise, and mocha aromas. Packed with juicy blackberry and red cherry fruit flavors with notes of cedar and dried herb. Rich and soft mid-palate; more full-bodied than many Merlots, finishes with spice.