



# RED MARE WINES

## 2015 . Red Mare Wines . Napa Valley . La Vaquera

Ripe black berries and currants, fruit compote, pie spices and caramel jump from the glass of this effusive wine. This cowgirl doesn't hold anything back. It fills your senses with dark fruits layered with more subtle and complex notes of tar, tobacco and fresh bread. In the mouth this wine has a powerful entry with firm tannins and ripe fruit balanced by a bright acidity that carries this wine to a long and dense finish.

### 2015 Vintage Notes:

While 2015 was the third in a string of dry years, late winter rains filled the soils, recharging them, which gave the vines an excellent push come spring. We expected a smaller vintage after three years of drought, but the extended and cold weather during bloom, led to an even lighter crop load as some flowers didn't develop into berries. This damage during bloom resulted in small, loose clusters, light-weight, yet perfect for producing wines with powerful concentration and lush mature tannins. This balance between crop load and leaf area allowed for excellent dappled sunlight filtration onto the berries and encouraged the development of complex flavors. Intense hand-work in the vineyard positioning shoots, removing excess leaves, and early crop level management resulted in outstanding wines.

### Vineyard & Winemaking Notes:

In 2012, when a bit of our Malbec, Petite Syrah, and Petit Verdot were left over after blending the Cabernet Sauvignon, we experimented by tossing them all together, creating a rich, inky and powerful "mountain" blend. It was so distinct and so delicious, that we decided to bottle it. La Vaquera was born.

La Vaquera is "the cowgirl" in Spanish, and this wine is our little cowgirl. She isn't following any rules. An untraditional blend and a bold character, this wine is always pushing the limits. The flavors and spiced texture are excellent when paired with the flavorful smoked meats or wild game. This wine hails mainly from the Swickard Vineyard in the northern reaches of the warm Calistoga AVA. Appropriately, it is owned by the founders of Five Dot Ranch, the well-regarded organic meat producer, and purveyor.

Production: 378 cases

TA: 6.34 g/L

pH: 3.76

Alc: 15.2%

100% French Oak

20% New Oak

Vineyard & Appellation Breakdown:

Swickard Vineyard ~ Petite Sirah

Bennet Lane Vineyard ~ Petit Verdot