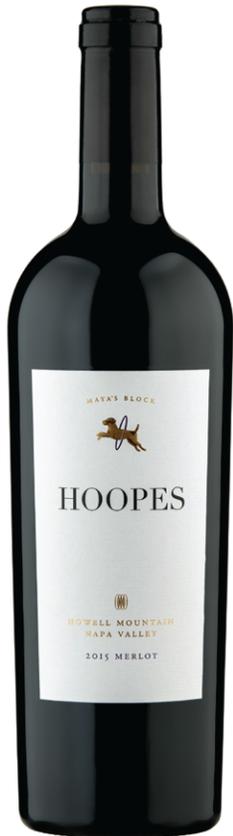




HOOPES



2015 MAYA'S BLOCK MERLOT  
HOWELL MOUNTAIN, NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

*"This classic grape is happiest grown in slightly cooler regions and heavier soils. That makes Howell Mountain the ideal location for growing Merlot. Our winemaker, Anne Vawter, selected the Las Posadas vineyard because of its ideal soil composition, namely volcanic, and its proximity to some of the mountain's most famous producers. Farmed by a good friend, this site has amazing character and balance. We are very excited to share this discovery with you."*

*- Second Generation Proprietor  
Lindsay Hoopes*

TECHNICAL DATA

*Appellation:* Howell Mountain, Napa Valley

*Composition:* 100% Merlot

*Aspect:* SE

*Soils:* White Tufa

*Slope:* Elevation 1,800 Feet

*Rootstock:* 101-14 & 3309

*Clone:* 181

*Barrels:* 100% French, 75% New

*Barrel Aging:* 21 Months

*Alcohol:* 14.9%

*PH:* 3.6

*TA:* 5.7 g/L

*Date Bottled:* August 17, 2017

*Number of Cases:* 98

VINTAGE

The 2015 vintage in Napa Valley was largely defined by rich and concentrated fruit due to very low yields. The unseasonably cool weather in the spring, just as the grape flowers were in full bloom, led to decreased berry set. This resulted in great depth of flavor in the fruit on the vine.

TASTING NOTES

"This wine is an absolute joy and a worthy example of the seductiveness of Mountain Merlot. Aromatically complex and enticing with fresh floral notes coupled with a sweet bay herbal dryness, powdery spun sugar, beeswax and blackberry. Flavors in the mouth support the promise of the vivid nose with ripe Bing cherries, vanillin, violet hard candy, and a delicate lilac powdery quality reminiscent of the fluffy volcanic soils of the site. Sweet tannins surround a firm mid palate and caramel notes smooth concentrated but well integrated tannins with the soft creaminess of milk chocolate. Powerful and feminine, the generous mouth ends with an appetizing and persistent finish."

*- Winemakers  
Anne Vawter & Jennifer Rue*