



2023 Lodi Merlot

In 1926, the Kautz family began farming in the Lodi region and in 1948, John Kautz Farms was founded. In 1990, after many successful years of growing wine grapes, the family completed the Ironstone Winery. The Ironstone Winery is a modern replica of an 1859 Gold Stamp Mill complete with tasting room, gourmet delicatessen, wine aging cavern, conference and wedding facilities, outdoor Amphitheatre, and 14.5 acres of landscaped gardens. The Heritage Museum and Jewelry Shoppe contains artifacts from the gold rush era, as well as the largest specimen of Crystalline Gold Leaf – a 44 lb. treasure. The family philosophy of winemaking is that quality wine grapes, a touch of artistry and patience create captivating elegant wines.

Winemaker Notes: The 2023 Ironstone Merlot offers vibrant, fruit-forward character supported by soft tannins and outstanding drinkability. Notes of ripe black cherry and black plum lead the palate, complemented by subtle hints of vanilla and toasted oak. Layers of currant, juicy dark fruit, and spicy cedar carry through to a rounded, well-balanced, and complex finish.

Vineyard Notes: Merlot grapes, for this vintage, were grown in several of Lodi's sub-appellations including Alta Mesa and Sloughhouse. These different locations provide diverse soils and climate that, when combined, create a more complex wine than one vineyard location alone.

Sustainable Viticultural Practices: At Ironstone, we use crop reduction, leaf removal, organic materials, and drip irrigation to improve the quality and intensity of flavors. Cover crops, which attract beneficial insects, are also employed. In addition, we place owl and wood duck boxes around the vineyards and ponds helping to preserve the surrounding habitats.

Technical Data

Blend: 76% Merlot, 7% Petit Verdot, 6% Souzao, 5% Tannat, 4% Red Blend, 2% Syrah				
Appellation:		Lodi		
Alcohol:	13.5%	TA:	5.60 g/l	pH: 3.51
RS: 3.90 g/l				
Aging: 8 Months French Oak				
UPC: 7 24826 05121 2				
Vegan Wine				

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