



## 2013 Blakeman Vineyard Merlot, Anderson Valley

The Anderson Valley vineyard home to our *Untended* Chardonnay includes a small block of Merlot and the challenge of making ultra-cool climate Merlot was too tempting for Jared to resist. 2010 was our first endeavor and while it may confound fans of typical California Merlot, those who appreciate the ending to “Sideways” and white horses will understand our goal.

**Appellation:** Anderson Valley

**Vineyard:** Blakeman

**Varietal:** Merlot

**Clone:** Unknown

**Age:** 37 years

**Elevation:** 950 feet

**Soil:** Colluvium loam - decomposed sandstone

**Yield:** 2 tons/acre

**Harvested:** October 8, 2013

**Pressed:** October 22, 2013

**Blend:** 95% Merlot / other

**Fermentation:** Wild yeast, neutral oak

**Barrel aging:** 15 months in neutral FO barrels

**Bottled:** Unfiltered on Feb 24, 2015

**Production:** 105 cases

**Release date:** February 2016

*Aromas of sweet, damp pine forest floor combines with mushrooms and textbook Anderson Valley cherry on the nose, reminiscent of a classic pinot noir. These pergola trained vines yield lush merlot components of black cherries, currants and raspberry with hints of prosciutto. The acid and tannin structure of this wine will provide the backbone for 20 plus years of aging.*