



2013 MERLOT

STEVE BORRA'S GILL CREEK RANCH ESTATE BOTTLED

At 2:30 in the morning, Steve Borra gets up and hops on his tractor to protect his highest quality Merlot against frost and mildew. These Merlot grapes are selected from vines growing just north of the town of Clements, east of Lodi, in our Clements Hills Gill Creek Ranch vineyard. Only 118 cases are made of this naturally fermented, barrel-aged, hand-crafted wine, leveraging the latest in high-end winemaking techniques.

Tasting Notes

If you're looking for a bouquet of roses, you've found them. The Merlot this year is super silky smooth going down, with the feel and taste of a bed full of red rose petals, accompanied with red cherries, plums and a hint of tell-tale bell pepper on a long, enticing finish. You could even reach for dark, decadent chocolate to complete the experience. Take some freshly-chopped garden tomatoes and bruschetta them onto toast, or grab a strip of beef jerky and rip some off with your teeth, then chase it with ample sips. You might catch some bonus forest floor and a dash of black pepper if you hold yourself to just a sniff. This is the way sophisticated and comforting Merlot is meant to taste. Wine geeks: we've got a nice acid balance with just the right tannins, but know that this is not at all sugar sweet. (07/24/2015)

Statistics

Appellation:	Clements Hills, Lodi (Gill Creek Ranch)		
Blend:	100% Merlot		
Harvested:	September 25, 2013		
Winemaking:	Free-run juice only		
Cellar:	20 months 40% new French oak		
Cases:	118 bottled May 27, 2015		
Alcohol:	14.3%	RS:	0.63 g/L <i>dry</i>
pH:	3.64	TA:	5.66 g/L
Retail Price:	\$19.99/750 mL		



Borra. Drink different.