

# Gainey Estate Merlot

## THE FACTS

**COUNTRY:** USA - CA

**REGION:** Santa Barbara County

**APPELLATION:** Santa Ynez Valley

**CEPAGE:** 97% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc

**WINEMAKING:** Open Top Fermented , pressed and aged 12 months in 27% new French oak, 76% neutral oak

**ALCOHOL BY VOLUME:** 14.2%

**AGING:** 12 months in 27% new oak, 76% neutral oak

**ANNUAL PRODUCTION:** 1700 cases

## THE STORY

Gainey Vineyard is the culmination of a family heritage that runs deep in the Santa Barbara wine country. Gainey's story in the Santa Ynez Valley begins more than 60 years ago when the Gainey family, acquired 1,800 acres of undeveloped land. In 1984, vines were planted and Gainey Vineyard was born. We now have over 60 acres of vineyard at the "Home Ranch" and have since acquired two additional estate vineyards of 100 acres in the Santa Rita Hills.

We are proudly one of the founding families in the valley and are still 100% family owned and operated for 4 generations.

**PHILOSOPHY:** "Winemaking is first & foremost an artistic pursuit. A creative process sharpened by intuition, sensitivity, & a deep connection to the vineyard." - Jeff Lebard

## THE ADJECTIVES

**OVERALL:** ripe flavors with an elegant and polished structure

**AROMAS / FLAVORS:** dark plum, black berry, flower, baking spice

**MOUThFEEL:** rich and silky yeilding to a long satiating finish

## THE SELLING POINTS

100% Estate merlot at an advantageous price point

**AWARDS:** 90pts Wine Enthusiast

**SUSTAINABILITY:** Sustainable In Practice

**PAIRINGS:** from a charcuterie board to a ribeye, this merlot is the perfect red wine

