

SKIPSTONE

2017 SKIPSTONE MERLOT

Winemaker

Philippe Melka

Varietal Composition

100% Merlot

Vintage Notes

The 2017 vintage produced wines of freshness and vibrancy. Very accessible wines resulted from this vintage of alternating cool and hot weather throughout the year. Our two blocks of Cabernet Franc were picked on the 5th of October and our Merlot was picked in two passes for optimal maturity in early September, a month prior to the fires that swept through Napa and Sonoma. Our commitment to quality never wavering, we did not bottle anything picked after the fires, and thus, every bottle of Skipstone in 2017 is of utmost quality.

Winemaking regime

Philippe's team hand sorted the grapes, which were fermented and left on the skins for an average of 25 days prior to pressing. The wine was aged for 18 months in 66% new French oak barrels prior to being bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.

104 cases produced

The warm 2017 vintage overall produced wines that are expressively aromatic on the nose, and have very enjoyable freshness, lower alcohol, and are beautifully structured and layered on the palate. 2017 Skipstone Merlot exudes the character of the vintage immediately upon opening, revealing a burst of bright red fruit, framed by savory aromas and flavors. Drink 2020-2030.

