



# Reserve Merlot Block 2

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Vintage: 2013

Price: \$28.95 (BC)

Tier: Block Series

Availability: Winery, Bench Club, VQA stores, private liquor stores, select restaurants

CSPC: 77347

UPC: 12860370012

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**Harvest Report:** The long, warm growing season and cool fall nights of 2013 were ideal for the mature Merlot vines in Hester Creek Estate's Block 2. Planted in the early 1970s, these are some of the oldest in the Okanagan Valley; they are perfectly suited to the Golden Mile Bench. Precision viticulture — including drip irrigation, leaf removal and shoot positioning — ensures they produce exceptional fruit full of plush, dark flavours.

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**Winemaking:** In the winery, the best lots of Merlot are fermented separately in Italian Ganimede fermenters. The fruit undergoes a long, slow maceration to extract ripe flavours and tannins as well as malolactic fermentation before oak aging. The flavour profile is layered by patient aging for 12 to 16 months in a blend of 75 per cent French and 25 per cent American oak. After aging, the best lots are selected to create a wine that is as unique as the vineyard block it came from.

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**Tasting Notes:** This balanced and beautifully integrated red wine is enticingly aromatic, with dark cherry, anise, sage, eucalyptus, red licorice and cedar on the nose. It delivers on the palate too: silky tannins and a long finish support flavours of juicy, ripe cherry and fresh herbs. Pair it with duck breast, a well-marbled rib eye steak, or with smoked barbecue ribs. Enjoy it now, or cellar it for five to seven years.

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## Winemaker Specs:

Harvest Date: late October 2013

Production: 600 cases

Bottling Date: June 2015

Ageability: 5-7 years

Blend: 100% Merlot

Alc. 14.1%

Oak: 75% French, 25% American

RS g/L < 5.0

Aging: 12 to 16 months

pH 3.82 TA g/L 6.0

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Alc.: alcohol | RS: residual sugar | TA: total acidity

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Hester Creek Estate Winery has its roots deep in B.C., with vines first planted in the alluvial soil of the Golden Mile Bench in 1968. Today, our estate vineyard produces wines that are a lively, intensely flavoured expression of this place we call home.

Learn more at [HesterCreek.com](http://HesterCreek.com).

TRUE WINE EXPERIENCE  
**HESTER CREEK**

