

**PLUS!**

Gold Series Selection

**Merriam Vineyards****2001 Windacre Vineyard Merlot**

Russian River Valley

**1232 Cases produced**

Peter and Diana Merriam honeymooned in France 20 years ago, and since then, the two have shared a love for wine and winemaking. Their passion for wine culminated in the purchase of a vineyard in the Russian River Valley in Sonoma County in 2000. They named the vineyard Windacre after their home in Maine where they spend summers with their children. Windacre Vineyard is located on the east side of the Russian River Valley. The micro-climate temperature and soil types are very similar to the Pomerol region of France where the most famous Merlots are made. Peter works very closely with winemaker Keith Mietz, and together they have produced a multitude of award-winning wines. The Merriams now own 22 acres, where they grow, produce and bottle handcrafted small lot Bordeaux varietals. Recently applying for design approval, Merriam Vineyards hopes to build a new winery with a production capacity of 7,500 cases in the near future. The new facility will house the production facility and the existing dwelling will be converted into the tasting room.

**ACCOLADES - TASTING NOTES**

The 2001 Merriam Vineyards, Windacre Vineyard Merlot is rich scarlet in color, tantalizes the nose, and pleases the palate from the first sip through the long-lasting finish. This superb Merlot received a **Double Gold Medal**, at the *Taster's Guild International Wine Competition* and a **Gold Medal** at the *Riverside International Wine Competition*. The *Wine Country Living* magazine awarded the Merlot **91 Points**. *Wine Enthusiast* magazine's whopping rating of a **93 Points** describes this wine the best— "A great Merlot that completely satisfies for its dryness, its firm, ripe tannins, and its lush interplay of blackberry, cherry, tobacco, and dark chocolate flavors. The finish goes on forever. As tannic as it is, it will be fine with a nice steak, or you can stick it in the cellar for a few years and let it soften." This wine pairs well with any of the foods traditionally paired with Merlot, from blueberries, wild rice and Portobello mushrooms to barbecued or braised beef. Barrel aged in new French oak 18 months plus 1 year in bottle before release. Estate grown. 95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Enjoy now through 2012.

**REORDERS****2001 Windacre Vineyard Merlot**

Winery Direct: \$30.00/bottle

**Gold Medal Wine Club's PLUS! price:****Half-Case - \$21.00 /bottle (\$126.00)****Full-Case - \$19.00 /bottle (\$228.00)**  
(plus shipping)[www.goldmedalwine.com/member](http://www.goldmedalwine.com/member)

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