

# LONGBOARD

Vineyards

**2017 MERLOT**  
**DAKINE VINEYARD**  
**RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY**



*DaKine Vineyard is our estate property. It is nestled at the bottom of an east-facing hill on Westside Road in Healdsburg. Original vines were planted in 1988 for Arrowwood Winery with budwood obtained from the famous "Three Palms" Merlot vineyard in Napa Valley. In addition,  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre of Malbec (clone 1) was established in the middle of the site. In 2005, Oded bought the property from the Mondavi family and began farming the grapes. Oded named the vineyard "DaKine" (pronounced Dah-kine), a Pidgin-Hawaiian expression that could mean anything but is often used to describe something magnificent as in: "Da Longboard wine you served last night had Dakine flavor!"*

*Merlot is a Bordeaux variety with a long tradition as a wine blended into Cabernet Sauvignon but one that also produces the iconic wines of the "Right Bank". Our estate vineyard makes a wine that is balanced, naturally. It is a field-blend, meaning we grow, harvest and co-ferment the Merlot and Malbec together. We believe that the combination of 30 year-old vines and a micro-climate that is cooler than the surrounding valleys but warm enough to ripen the grapes every year work together to create a complex wine with a sense of place.*

*DaKine Merlot is lush with black currant, violet and blueberry aromas with that signature note of wild fennel. The generous mid-palate is full of sweet-tasting tannins, and dark chocolate flavors. As always, this is our favorite wine to pair with a rare Filet Mignon or a beef carpaccio.*

*Cheers*

*Oded Shakked.*

*Oded Shakked*  
*Owner / Winemaker*

**Composition:**  
Merlot 84.0%  
Malbec 16.0%

**Appellation:**  
100% Russian River Valley  
100% Dakine Vineyard

**Ageing:**  
24 Months in French Oak Barrels

**Analysis:** Alcohol 14.3 %  
TA 6.52 g/L pH 3.73

**Production:** 384 Cases