



TORTOISE CREEK

## Lodi, Clarksburg, Central Coast CA

Tortoise Creek is handcrafted, small-production wines from California with an emphasis on sustainable farming.

Tortoise Creek was created by Mel and Janie Master, a British couple who have lived most of their lives in the wine business in both France and California.

“Tortoise Creek” comes from the translation of the name of the couple’s home in Provence named “Le Riseau de Tortue” after the Tortoises who flourished in the creek alongside their vineyard. The concept with Tortoise Creek is to work with small farmers in California who focus on sustainable farming. Tortoise Creek is handcrafted, small-batch wines selected and blended from growers who understand this philosophy.

In 2008, Mel and Janie Master joined forces with the Sager family who own the national importing company, Winesellers, Ltd., and together they have extended the range to consist of top quality Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Zinfandel, Pinot Noir, and Sauvignon Blanc. They are all blended to create the best possible representation of the varietal and offer remarkable value.



The Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing is California’s first sustainable winegrowing standards that have

been peer reviewed by scientists, academics and environmentalists and being implemented on a region-wide basis. The Lodi Rules are based on the Lodi Winegrower’s Workbook and are designed to lead to measurable improvements in environmental health of the surrounding ecosystem, society-at-large, and wine quality. Participating growers can get their vineyards certified as producing sustainably-grown winegrapes. For more information, see:

[www.lodirules.com](http://www.lodirules.com)

### Chardonnay “Jam’s Blend” 2016

“Jam’s Blend” refers to Janie & Mel, the creators of Tortoise Creek.

“Like a liquid fruit salad, this medium-bodied wine spills over with pear, apple, peach and pineapple flavors on a rather soft texture. There is no obvious oak component, however a light vanilla accent adds interest.”

**87 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 08/18

UPC # 0 89832 41205 2



### Zinfandel “The Chelonian” 2016

“The Chelonian” refers to our partnership with the Chelonian Research Foundation (CRF) to donate a portion of annual proceeds from this wine to benefit the conservation and increased understanding of turtles and tortoises. [www.chelonian.org](http://www.chelonian.org)

No other variety represents the region of Lodi like Zinfandel. Over 100 years ago European settlers believed it to be the best fit for the climate and soils, and their keen insight paid off. Our 2016 Zinfandel “The Chelonian” has a lovely spicy, cherry like bouquet and is bursting with sweet, berry flavors. There are also delicious overtones of blackcurrant and plums, with a welcoming finish of vanilla and cinnamon toast.

UPC # 0 89832 41203 8



### Sauvignon Blanc

#### “Cuvée Jeane” 2016

“Cuvée Jeane” refers to “Janie’s Blend”.

“A light touch of cut grass leads to lemon rinds, citrus spray, Gala apples and a touch of guava on the nose of this widely available wine. It’s clean and crisp on the palate, where stone fruit and apple flavors reign, set against a chalky texture.”

**88 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 02/18

“A round, fruity, full bodied Sauvignon that is grapey and floral in character (apple, fig, peach, honey), balanced, and medium in length. Very good value.”

**3+ / 5 stars**

*Restaurant Wine* 09/18

UPC # 0 89832 25933 6



### Merlot “The Revivalist” 2016

“The Revivalist” is in reference to the recent comeback of Merlot.

“This wine is very flavorful and unapologetically oaky, from the smoky aromas to the almost-sweet maple and brown-sugar flavors that blend with a jammy fruit character. It is quite deep in color, saturated in flavor but not overly full bodied.”

**87 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 08/18

UPC # 0 89832 41207 6



### Pinot Noir “Mission Grove” 2016

“Mission Grove” refers to the native Californian Olive cultivar, originally planted at the San Diego Mission by Franciscan monks. Mission olives grow throughout California, close to areas we source our Pinot Noir.

“This wine might be the best value available in California Pinot Noir. It has great varietal character in the aroma and follows through with tempting spice, red fruit and savory nuances on the palate. Black tea, red cherry and clove waft from the glass while cherry and cranberry spread across the palate, braced by moderate tannins and fresh acidity. It’s a beautifully balanced medium-bodied wine.”

**90 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 03/18

2017 “Fruity and lively, with cherry and plum flavors that feature notes of underbrush. Hints of white pepper show on the finish. Drink now.”

**87 points**

*Wine Spectator* 11/18

UPC # 0 89832 25999 2



### Cabernet Sauvignon

#### “Cherokee Lane” 2015

“Cherokee Lane” pays tribute to the old stretch of Highway 99 running through the town of Lodi and surrounding vineyards.

Our Cabernet Sauvignon “Cherokee Lane” is loaded with aromas and flavors of red and black cherries supported by vanilla and cedar nuances. It is beautifully balanced with both fruit and tannins.

UPC # 0 89832 41201 4



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