



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” 2017

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

The 2017 “Jam’s Blend” Chardonnay boasts bright, fresh aromas and flavors of citrus, pear, apple and white flowers. Its creamy texture is supported by fresh acidity and a long, clean finish.

**87 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 12/19

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)

“Nice fruit concentration, a touch of spicy oak and a very clean uncomplicated flavor profile make this smooth and almost-sweet wine easy to quaff and enjoy. It’s full bodied, soft and not noticeably tannic.”

**87 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 12/18

“Young and a bit unfocused, with modest cherry, spice and cola flavors. Drink now through 2022.”

**87 points**

*Wine Spectator* 11/18

UPC # 0 89832 41203 8



### Sauvignon Blanc

#### “Cuvée Jeane” 2017

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

“Anjou pear, squeezed lime and riper guava aromas show on the nose of this appellation blend. The palate combines apple flesh with lime juice, proving pleasantly mellow and refreshing.”

**89 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 10/19

UPC # 0 89832 25933 6



### Merlot “The Revivalist” 2017

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

Our Merlot is full of fresh, bright aromas and flavors of black-berries, cherries and herbs. It is round, rich and ripe with soft tannins.

**89 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine & Spirits* 10/19

**86 points** *Wine Enthusiast* 12/19

UPC # 0 89832 41207 6



### 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



### Pinot Noir “Mission Grove” 2018

“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.

Our Pinot Noir “Mission Grove” has lovely aromas of violets and ripe cherries and soft on the palate, delicate but with delightful impressions of raspberries and other red fruits.

**87 points, “Best Buy”**

*Wine Enthusiast* 12/19

UPC # 0 89832 25999 2



Winesellers, Ltd.