

NAPA VALLEY



2012 Napa Valley Merlot

Our Napa Valley Merlot is a complex blend of several individual vineyard lots, incorporating fruit from our Estate Vineyards and from top independent growers throughout the Napa Valley. The final wine is a rich and cohesive expression of the entire Napa Valley, reflecting the varied microclimates and soils of this unique appellation.

2012 Harvest Notes

The 2012 growing season offered near-perfect growing conditions. Though budbreak was late due to heavy spring rains, warm weather during bloom allowed the vines to set a large crop. Increased yields were the result of more berries, not larger berries. This translated into even higher quality in the winery, as the skin-to-juice ratio remained ideal. Slightly cooler-than-average post-veraison weather and a lack of any heat events allowed for greatly extended hang time. Harvest was 2-3 weeks later than average, and the grapes arrived at the winery in pristine condition.

Comments from the Winemaker

With its temperate weather and lengthy hang time, the 2012 growing season was ideal for our style of Merlot, yielding a wine that combines exceptional structure and depth with velvety tannins and alluring fruit. From its aromas of Santa Rosa plum, crème de cassis, violet and Herbes de Provence to its enticing flavors of olallieberry, sticky toffee and vanilla bean, this is a complex and compelling expression of Napa Valley Merlot.

Varietal Content

88% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 1% Malbec

Harvest Information

Appellation: Napa Valley

Harvest Dates: September 22 — October 31, 2012

Average Sugar at Harvest: 25.0° Brix

Cooperage

100% French Oak Château-style Barrels (60 Gallons)

Barrel Aging: 16 Months

Age of Barrels: 25% new, 75% second vintage

Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%

0.59 g/100 ml titratable acidity 10-12 days fermentation at 80°F

pH: 3.57

Bottled: April 2014

Release Date: August 2014

