



# 2013 Estate Grown Napa Valley Merlot Rector Creek Vineyard

Rector Creek Vineyard is located north of the town of Yountville along the Silverado Trail. A unique climate featuring a cooling afternoon breeze combined with Rector Creek's rocky alluvial soils creates excellent growing conditions for the vines. As a result, Rector Creek produces an elegant expression of Merlot with attractive blueberry and allspice aromatics, velvety structure and refined character highlighting classic notes of spicy plum.

## 2013 Harvest Notes

The 2013 harvest was early, even and excellent with all of our Estate fruit in the winery by October 10th. A warm dry spring brought an early bud break and created ideal conditions for flowering and fruit set. In the weeks after Labor Day, a moderate heat event followed by a period of perfect weather created a dream scenario for end-of-season ripening. Rain was not a factor, and for the second vintage in a row, the quality of the grapes was exceptional throughout Napa Valley.

## Comments from the Winemaker

The warmer 2013 vintage yielded a wine that showcases a beautifully intense expression of everything we love about Rector Creek Merlot. It starts with voluptuous flavors of blueberry, acai, red currant and violet that unfold across a richly structured palate. Though this is a robust wine, it also has the finesse and velvety finish we prize in our Rector Creek Merlot.

# **Varietal Content**

95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon

#### **Harvest Information**

Appellation: Napa Valley - Yountville

Harvest Dates: September 20 – October 11, 2013

Average Sugar at Harvest: 26.3° Brix

1 Vineyard Harvested

# Cooperage

100% French oak château-style barrels (60 gallons)

Barrel Aging: 18 Months

Age of Barrels: 75% New, 25% Second vintage

## Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%

Titratable Acidity: 0.54g/100ml

pH: 3.70

Bottled: July 22, 2015 Released: April 2016