

2014 NAPA VALLEY, RUTHERFORD ESTATE VINEYARD MERLOT

St. Supéry Estate Vineyards and Winery is a 100% Estate Grown, sustainably farmed winery located in the renowned Rutherford growing region in the heart of Napa Valley. The vineyard sits on the "Rutherford Bench" of mineral-rich alluvial and well-drained soils allowing the grapevine's root systems to mine for nutrients and water, yielding complex and concentrated flavors. Committed to producing the highest quality estate wines without compromise, we focus on sustainable winery and farming operations to protect the land and environment for future generations.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES This Merlot presents with deep purple hues and red notes. Aromas of black plum, blueberry and dark chocolate combine with anise, charred oak and a hint of graphite that result in dark fruit flavors of plum and cherry. The wine continues to evolve with black currant and dark mocha flavors and a hint of dusty terroir on the palate. This is a structured and elegant Merlot with fine-grained tannins.

VINTAGE 2014 In 2014, we experienced a continuation of the drought. Our vineyards saw the first significant rainfall of the year in February however, the growing season remained dry. A hot summer continued through to early October at the height of harvest. In the cool morning hours, the grapes were harvested by hand and brought to the winery where they were hand sorted. 12% of the sorted berries were placed directly into new French Oak barrels where they went through natural fermentation. The barrels were hand rolled six times a day to encourage cap maceration and extraction from the berries. After fermentation, the wine remained on the skins for an extended maceration and barrel integration. Once complete, the wine was drained and the skins removed. The drained wine then returned to the same barrel to age for 19 months.

APPELLATION Rutherford, Napa Valley

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VINEYARD Rutherford Estate Vineyard

VARIETY/BLEND 92% Merlot 4% Cabernet Franc 2% Cabernet Sauvignon 2% Petit Verdot **OAK MATURATION** 100% French oak (59% new French oak) for 19 months

РН 3.60

т. асіріту 6.0 g/L **а L С О Н О L** 14.5%

HARVEST DATES Sept 30 - Oct 8, 2014

BOTTLING DATE July 29, 2016

CASE PRODUCTION 1,090 cases



