

## 2015 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** Deep shades of reds and purples present in this single vineyard Merlot. Aromas of rich ripe blackberry with subtle notes of currant, anise and charred oak combine with just a hint of graphite. Flavors of black plum and dark mocha, couple with subtle raspberry, espresso and toasted vanillin barrel. This is a wine of fine texture, terrific length and structure.

**VINTAGE 2015** Despite good rainfall in December of 2014, January and February of 2015 brought warm, spring-like daytime temperatures with minimal precipitation. Little rain was recorded in March and April and as the temperatures cooled, the fruit set slowly over three weeks. May stayed warm and we experienced significant hot spells in June, July and August. Harvest kicked off in early September and while yields were light, the quality of our fruit was terrific. In the cool morning hours, the grapes were harvested by hand and brought to the winery where they were hand sorted. 3% 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

**VINEYARD** Rutherford Estate Vineyard

VARIETY/BLEND 93% Merlot 5% Cabernet Sauvignon 2% Cabernet Franc OAK MATURATION 100% French oak (42% new French oak) for 19 months, 3% barrel fermented

**РН** 3.64

**т. асіріту** 6.1 g/L **ацсоноц** 14.5%

**HARVEST DATES** Sept 9, 11, 19, 21 and 22, 2015

BOTTLING DATE August 4, 2017

**CASE PRODUCTION** 1,710 cases





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