

2018 Napa Valley, Rutherford Estate Merlot

A burgundy shade of red commence this wine. Aromas of black plum and black cherry combine with graphite, milk chocolate, and black pepper with a subtle thread of vanilla from the toasted oak. This is a generous merlot with nice freshness on the palate showcasing juicy blackberry and toasted oak. There is a cocoa powder texture with smooth tannins and a long finish.

94

JAMESSUCKLING.COM ₹

"This is always an excellent merlot with blackberry, chocolate and hazelnut character. It's full and tight with balance and freshness. Shows verve and brightness."

James Suckling, July 2021

94



"Ripe plum and cinnamon bark, crushed stone, and a dollop of white pepper just starts to describe this intensely deep and ripe red. Luscious dark cherry usurps the palate with pleasure, storming forward in a plush, yet mighty, mouthfeel."

Meridith May, March 2022

92 POINTS

JEB DUNNUCK

"Including 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and small amounts of other varieties, the 2018 Merlot Rutherford Estate Vineyard reveals a deep purple hue to go with impressive purity in its cassis and mulberry fruits as well as notes of chocolate, cedary herbs, and tobacco. It shows the vintage's pure, elegant style yet has terrific concentration, ripe tannins, a good spine of acidity, and a great finish."

Jeb Dunnuck, January 2021

92

James Suckling 2017 vintage 93

James Suckling 2016 vintage 93 POINTS

Wine Spectator 2015 vintage

90

Wine Spectator 2014 vintage



