



## 2022 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** A wine with distinctive sense of place that opens with ripe cherry, red currant, cocoa powder and baking spices. Rich and round in the mouth with velvety tannin structure, depth and length, this is a texturally pure Merlot with a satisfying palate of blackberry, dark raspberry, Bing cherry and a hint of dark chocolate on the lingering finish.

**VINTAGE 2022** The 2022 growing season began as usual with budbreak in mid-March through early April, followed by abundant shoot growth in May. Early summer brought nice warm days and cool nights with veraison occurring in mid to late July. Temperatures remained relatively even through the start of harvest and into August, while early September brought a heat wave that caused the grapes to accelerate their ripening, while conditions remained dry. Overall, 2022 did not disappoint, creating wines with opulent aromatics and flavors.

**WINEMAKING** The fruit was hand-harvested in the cool morning hours and brought to the winery in half-ton bins. The clusters were sorted using a double sorting system, first sorted by hand. The fruit then ran through a small de-stemmer before the individual berries were sorted to ensure that the ideal grapes were chosen. These berries were delivered to a fermenter where there was a period of resting on skins. Warm fermentation temperatures were encouraged along with gentle cap maceration to achieve the desired color and structure for the wine before an extended maceration time on skins prior to final pressing. The wine was transferred directly to barrel for 19 months of maturation.

Thirty five percent of the sorted berries were fermented in French oak barrels. After fermentation, the wine remained in those same barrels for aging to encourage integration and add textures to the wine.

### APPELLATION

Rutherford, Napa Valley

### VINEYARD

Rutherford Estate Vineyard

### VARIETY/BLEND

87% Merlot  
8% Petit Verdot  
5% Cabernet Sauvignon

### OAK MATURATION

100% French oak (47% new)  
for 19 months

*Barrel fermented 35%*

### PH

3.51

### T. ACIDITY

6.3 g/L

### ALCOHOL

14.5%

### HARVEST DATES

September 12 - October 1, 2022

### BOTTLING DATE

July 25, 2024

### CASE PRODUCTION

870 cases



ESTATE GROWN + SUSTAINABLY FARMED

NAPA GREEN CERTIFIED VINEYARD | NAPA GREEN CERTIFIED WINERY

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