

**2016 RUTHERFORD ESTATE  
MERLOT**

Rutherford | Napa Valley



**Vineyard Notes:**

Our Estate Merlot is sourced exclusively from our Estate vineyard located east of our winery and tasting room in the heart of the Rutherford Appellation.

This growing region is one of the best for Merlot due to ideal soil and climate conditions. Wines of the Rutherford Appellation display characteristics that set them apart as some of the best in the world.

**Vintage Notes:**

The near-perfect 2016 growing season started early, saw ideal weather conditions throughout and wrapped up as the valley's first significant fall rainstorm arrived on October 14. Thanks to a relatively steady and mild July and August and then a series of warm days at the end of the growing season, vineyards were able to progress to perfect ripeness.

**Winemaker's Notes:**

Our Rutherford Merlot exhibits notes of cherry, cedar, and sage on the nose. Expansive notes of bright black cherry, ripe blackberry, blueberry, soft spices, tobacco, and clove envelop the long finish and soft, dusty tannins. Pair this enchanting Merlot with braised short ribs, Paella Valenciana, or prosciutto-wrapped chicken.

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<b>Blend:</b>	100% Merlot
<b>Barrel Aging:</b>	22 Months; 100% French Oak, 40% New
<b>Appellation:</b>	Rutherford
<b>Production:</b>	148 Cases
<b>Alcohol:</b>	14.4%

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