

ESTD 1872



NAPA VALLEY

LONG MEADOW RANCH



2015 MERLOT RUTHERFORD ESTATE NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD: Rutherford Estate

VARIETAL: 100% Merlot

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

MATURATION: 25% new French oak

CASE PRODUCTION: 277

FOOD AFFINITIES: Braised grass-fed beef short ribs or brick-cooked chicken with herbs

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS:

"The 2015 Rutherford Estate Merlot is a portrait of elegance with a complex array of dark red and blue fruits overlaying the finer notes of milk chocolate, anise, and violets. The acidity carries the black cherry and fig from nose to palate, blending with the final brush strokes of light oak and delicate tannins that linger in the finish."

– Justin Carr

GROWING SEASON:

An early bud break, one of the longest flowering periods in years, and a long growing season produced a vintage that shines in quality. Spring started fast and an early bloom was met with a dip in temperature, wind and rains which slowed the development and reduced yields. The result was a small crop of extremely well-concentrated fruit that ripened fully and slowly before an early harvest in August.

LONG MEADOW RANCH:

Owned by Ted, Laddie, and Christopher Hall, LMR employs an integrated, organic farming system, using simple, sustainable methods. Each part of the Ranch contributes to the health of the whole. Vineyards and wine making, olive orchards and olive oil making, cattle and horse breeding all work together in complementary fashion, as do the egg-laying poultry flock and the organic vegetable gardens. All crops are certified organic by California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) and are grown without the use of herbicides, pesticides, or chemical fertilizers.

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