



ESTD 1872

LONG MEADOW RANCH  
WINERY

NAPA VALLEY

## 2013 MERLOT RUTHERFORD ESTATE NAPA VALLEY

**VINEYARD:** Estate Grown**VARIETAL:** 100% Merlot**ALCOHOL:** 13.5%**COOPERAGE:** 50% new and 50% used French Oak**CASE PRODUCTION:** 498**FOOD AFFINITIES:** Perfect with braised grass-fed beef short ribs or brick-cooked chicken with herbs**WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS:**

"The vibrant hue of the 2013 Rutherford Estate Merlot is at once inviting and engaging - a sign of the youthful character of this wine. The nose is a complex blend of earthy (wildflower honey, roasted tomatoes, dried oregano), spicy (gingerbread-especially-clove) and fruity (red cherry, fresh figs, cranberry, plum compote) aromas. The flavors on the palate are more focused and showcase a range of bright red fruits. Balance and structure enhance the mouthfeel. This refreshing Merlot is neither too light nor too heavy; it finishes with persistent fruitiness and the subtle layering of the wines' many other varietal flavors."

— Ashley Heisey

**GROWING SEASON:**

The 2013 vintage was a superb vintage. The unusually long season, moderate temperatures without a major heat spike, and lack of rains made for one of the best vintages in recent memory. An early spring bud break allowed our vineyards to get a two-week head start on the vintage, and the lack of frost meant that yields were excellent while the longer growing season allowed for full ripeness. The wines from this vintage will be of outstanding quality.

**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.

**UPC CODE:** 894591002280 - 750mL