

NAPA VALLEY

2016 MERLOT NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD: Estate grown at our Mayacamas & Rutherford Estates

VARIETAL: 100% Merlot

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

MATURATION: Aged in 25% new French oak

FOOD AFFINITIES: LMR grass-fed beef, smoked baby back ribs, or

with barbecued pulled pork sandwiches

WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES:

Celebrate the versatility of this lovely blend of small Merlot blocks from our mountain and valley estates. Bright and youthful, the nose is full of Bing cherries, fresh plum and a hint of raspberry leaf. On the more savory side, touches of almond, peppercorn and lightly toasted French oak enhance a palate balanced with acidity and long round tannins.

- Justin Carr

GROWING SEASON:

An early bud break, wet spring soils, and a long growing season produced a vintage with excellent quality. A wet spring started fast and rapid growth was met with average summer temperatures, which slowed development and reduced yields. The result was a moderate crop of well-concentrated fruit that ripened fully and slowly before an early harvest.

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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