



ESTD 1872

LONG MEADOW RANCH  
WINERY

NAPA VALLEY



## 2018 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 barbecued pulled pork sandwiches

### WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES:

"A blend of small Merlot blocks at our Mayacamas and Rutherford estate vineyards showcases the pleasant synergy of mountain and valley floor fruit. The 2018 opens with aromas of Bing cherry, cranberry and pomegranate with the slightest hints of vanilla and cinnamon. A very light sweet French oak profile, long soft tannins, and a luscious acidity makes this a versatile quaffer that will please most at your next social gathering." - Justin Carr

### GROWING SEASON:

The growing season was marked by a wet spring, resulting in extended flowering in some areas throughout the valley. The early summer was cool and mild allowing gradual ripening and acid development. Winemakers had to wait, watch and let berry chemistry and flavors come into balance before starting a relatively late 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.