

ESTD 1872



LONG MEADOW RANCH

NAPA VALLEY



2016 MERLOT RUTHERFORD ESTATE NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD: Rutherford Estate

VARIETAL: 100% Merlot

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

MATURATION: 25% new French oak

CASE PRODUCTION: 280

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

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS:

"Deep red and juicy delicious, the 2016 Rutherford Estate Merlot has a balanced mouthfeel and silky tannins that make it neither light nor heavy. Aromas of black cherry, fresh plum, red currant, and hazelnut are interlaced with the softest touch of French oak."

– 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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