

RUTHERFORD Ranch

NAPA VALLEY

2018 MERLOT Napa Valley



THE 2018 GROWING SEASON was truly an exceptional year for ripening grapes. Winter started out with very little rainfall, which made growers worry that it may be another year of drought. When March arrived, however, it brought along the much-needed rainfall that helped fill the root zone, water table and some reservoirs. The vines came out of winter dormancy and began the season with ample water and abundant sunshine.

OUR 2018 MERLOT is sourced from select lots throughout diverse Napa Valley sub-appellations. The lots were then carefully blended to create a medley of nuanced flavors, aromas and varietal characteristics.

FOOD PAIRING: Fine tannins and a velvety mouthfeel make this wine an ideal accompaniment to smoked baby back ribs, or with hearty pasta dishes and pizza.

WINE DESCRIPTION

AROMAS & FLAVORS: Lucious aromatic notes of cherry, sage and plum, layered with earthy flavors of black pepper, toasted oak and dark stone fruit. Bright acidity and fine tannins leave a velvety mouthfeel.

Sweetness: Dry

BLEND: 92% Merlot, 5% Petite Sirah, 3% Malbec

AGING: Stainless steel and French and American oak barrels

TA/PH: 0.56 (g/I00mL) / 3.57

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

Bottle Dimensions:	Case Dimensions:	Pallet Configuration:	UPC	SCC
Height: 11.79"	39.5 pounds	42" x 48"		
Width: 3.27" at taper	Height: 12.0"	56 Cases Per Pallet	0 87712 10126 3	
2.62" at base	Length: 13.5"	14 Cases Per Layer		
	Width: 10.5"	4 Layers Per Pallet	0"" 8//12 " 10126 ' " 3	(01)00087712651263