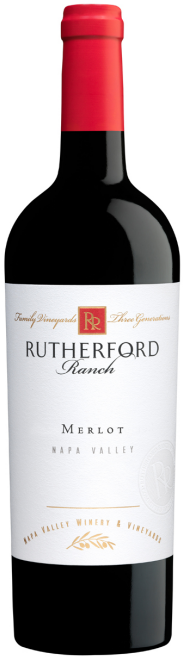
Merlot Rutherford Ranch Napa Valley 2018



Region

The fog influenced Napa Valley is home to many of California's premium wineries. This famous valley around the natural springs of Oakville, includes the thin strip of soil known as the Rutherford Bench where some of the state's most highly prized vineyards are planted. It is where great Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay are grown and sublime Pinot Noirs from the southern Carneros end of the valley.

Producer

Rutherford Ranch Winery is located on Napa Valley's historic Silverado Trail in one of the area's most renowned sub-appellations. Certification by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance is a testament to the family's three generation commitment to sustainable, Earth-friendly wine growing and winemaking practices. Their portfolio of wines showcases the rich diversity of California's premium growing regions. Sourced from appellations that include Napa Valley, Arroyo Seco, Lodi and the Central Coast, all wines are finished and bottled at the family's Napa Valley winery.

Tasting Notes

This powerful Merlot makes quite the impression with luscious aromatic notes of cherry, sage and plum, layered with earthy flavours of black pepper, toasted oak and dark stone fruit. The wine spends 18 months in French and American oak for a delicious rich texture and oak notes of toast and sweet spice. The intense fruit is balanced by bright acidity and fine tannins for a supple and velvety mouthfeel.

Food

An ideal accompaniment to smoked baby back ribs, or with hearty pasta dishes and pizza.

Technical Information

Country	United States
Region	Napa Valley
Grape(s)	Merlot (91.1%) Petite Sirah (5.1%) Malbec (2.5%) Petit Verdot (1%) Cabernet Sauvignon (0.3%)
Type	Red
Style	Robust
Oaked Style	Oaked
Body Style	Full bodied
Sustainable	Yes-certified sustainable

Dry/Sweet Style	Not applicable
Alcohol Content	14.5%
Closure Style	Cork
Organic/Biodynamic	No
Allergens	**Milk:** No **Egg:** No
Vegetarian/Vegan	**Vegetarian:** Yes **Vegan:** Yes

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