



**APPELLATION:** Napa Valley

**COMPOSITION:** 100% Merlot

**AGING:** 21 months, 31% New oak  
(100% French)

**ALCOHOL:** 14.5%

**T.A.:** 0.58 g / 100ml

**PH:** 3.57

**HARVEST DATE:**  
September 21–October 7, 2015

**RELEASE DATE:** May 2018

**CASES:** 1,946 (12-pack cases)

#### VINEYARD

Grapes for the 2015 Napa Cellars Merlot are sourced from vineyards mainly from the Oak Knoll region, along with a small portion from Rutherford—regions ideal for cultivating Merlot grapes. The moderate to cool climate in Napa Valley supports an extended growing season, resulting in elegant, intricate, complex and balanced wine.

#### WINEMAKING

Once harvested, the grapes undergo a 10 to 11 day maceration period and are fermented using the Délestage method. This process allows the winemaker to extract copious amounts of color and flavor from the skins, while avoiding excessive extraction of bitter and astringent flavors. After the fermentation process is complete, the wine is aged for 21 months in 100% French oak barrels.

#### WINEMAKER NOTES

The 2015 Napa Cellars Merlot boasts aromas of dark cherry and concentrated dark fruit notes with hints of strawberry jam and vanilla. Flavors of plum, blackberry, caramel, and cocoa coat the palate and are complimented by smoky-oak, tobacco and cedar notes. The wine finishes with a toasted, sweeter caramel and soy-like character. This wine showcases medium bodied, concentrated tannin in the mid-palate and part acidity that pairs well with a wide range of food.

FOUR DECADES IN THE NAPA VALLEY

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