

2014 CABERNET FRANC NAPA VALLEY

Vintage

Coming on the heels of 2013, which had been heralded the "vintage of the decade", 2014 certainly had a lot to live up to. One of the driest winters on record for California, most of the rainfall came in February and March and was quickly followed by warm soil temperatures. Fast spring growth set the valley off and running, in some cases seeing bud break and veraison almost 2 weeks ahead of schedule. The lack of major heat spike, allowed for longer hang times and (coupled with higher degree days and drier soils) increased concentration and complexity. The 2014's will go down in history as the best of the stellar 12-13-14 vintage string, and one with higher than average yields and exceptional quality.

Vineyard

Our family vineyard is located on 40 acres of Napa Valley floor just north of St. Helena on the Silverado Trail. It has well-drained, sandy, alluvial soils and is characterized by its ability to produce complex wines with well-defined fruit flavors, gentle acids and naturally balanced tannins.

Vinification

After the fruit was received at the winery, it was destemmed directly to stainless steel tank where it was fermented for 12 days. After fermentation, the free run wine was drained from tank and racked to barrel. This wine was aged in 50% new French and Hungarian Oak barrels for 20 months before being racked to tank for bottling. The wine was racked quarterly during the first year.

Wine Profile

The 2014 is a wonderful expression of the variety Cabernet Franc. It's open aromas of bright cherry, fresh plum, strawberry and currants are underscored by notes of cocoa powder, sage, lavender, sandalwood and earl grey tea. The palate opens with a core of rich red fruit highlighted by flavors of strawberry compote, dried cherries and cranberries that lead to hints of Mexican chocolate, baking spices, roasted coffee, and cigar box. The body is smooth with warm, radiant tannins that are supported by a fresh acidity the keeps the wine crisp and refreshing. The 2014 Titus Cabernet Franc will pair well with smoked or stewed meats, even turkey at Thanksgiving Dinner. Enjoy now through 2026.

Technical Information

Vineyard Manager: Eric Titus Cases Produced: 1190

Winemaker: Phillip Titus Release: October 2016 Appellation: Napa Valley Barrel Aging: 20 months

Harvest Date: October 2014 French & Hungarian Oak Blend:

81% Cabernet Franc 50% New 10% Malbec Alcohol: 14.9%

5% Cabernet Sauvignon **Total Acidity:** .64 g/100 ml

2% Merlot pH: 3.7

2% Petit Verdot

POST OFFICE BOX 608 www.titusvineyards.com TEL: (707) 963-3235 ST. HELENA, CA 94574 info@titusvineyards.com FAX: (707) 963-3257