



T I T U S

**2014 MERLOT
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. The fruit from this small section of vineyard is largely devoted to blending into our Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon and Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon wines with any excess reserved for a small production, varietal Merlot wine.

Wine Profile

The 2014 Titus Merlot is proof of how delicious Merlot can be and why we love to use it in the blending of the Titus wines. It has aromas of berry tart, dried cherry, espresso and candied apple. The palate of the wine is mouth filling and smooth with flavors of Maraschino cherry, wild berry pie and baker’s chocolate. The tannins are long and integrate well with the mid weight body and fresh fruit. Enjoy now through 2024.

Technical Information

Vineyard Manager:	Eric Titus	Cases Produced:	459
Winemaker:	Phillip Titus	Release:	September 2017
Appellation:	Napa Valley	Barrel Aging:	55% New Hungarian Oak
Blend:	76% Merlot	Bottled:	May 26 th , 2016
	13% Malbec	Alcohol:	14.9%
	11% Cabernet Sauvignon	Total Acidity:	6.4
		pH:	3.74