



2017 NAPA VALLEY, RUTHERFORD ESTATE VINEYARD MERLOT

St. Supéry Estate Vineyards and Winery is a 100% Estate Grown, sustainably farmed winery located in the renowned Rutherford growing region in the heart of Napa Valley. The vineyard sits on the “Rutherford Bench” of mineral-rich alluvial and well-drained soils allowing the grapevine’s root systems to mine for nutrients and water, yielding complex and concentrated flavors. Committed to producing the highest quality estate wines without compromise, we focus on sustainable winery and farming operations to protect the land and environment for future generations.

WINEMAKER’S NOTES Deep shades of reds and purples present in this single-vineyard Merlot. Aromas of black cherry and black plum combine with a thread of raspberry and mocha and a hint of vanillin extract. Flavors of black plum persist with fresh raspberry coupled with mocha and elegant toasted oak. This is a gracefully structured wine of fine texture and terrific length.

VINTAGE 2017 An extreme winter in 2017 left our lakes full, which was welcome after several dry years. This groundwater primed the vineyards for what turned out to be another excellent harvest. Early spring saw lovely days, with May quickly warming up. The summer experienced several heat spells and caused the vineyards to accelerate their ripening, while conditions remained dry. Merlot harvest kicked off on September 11, 2017. The fruit was hand-harvested in the cool morning hours and brought to the winery in half-ton bins. Clusters were sorted using a double sorting system: first, the clusters were sorted by hand then the individual berries were sorted to ensure that only the ideal grapes were chosen. These grapes were delivered to a fermenter for a period of resting on skins. Warm fermentation temperatures were encouraged along with gentle cap maceration to achieve the desired color and structure before an extended maceration time on skins prior to final pressing. The wine was transferred directly to barrel where it aged for 20 months. Thirty-two percent of the berries used in this blend were fermented then aged in French Oak barrels for added layers of complexity.

APPELLATION
Rutherford, Napa Valley

VINEYARD
Rutherford Estate Vineyard

VARIETY/BLEND
90% Merlot
5% Cabernet Sauvignon
5% Petit Verdot

OAK MATURATION
100% French oak (53% new)
for 20 months, 32% barrel
fermented

PH
3.44

T. ACIDITY
6.5 g/L

ALCOHOL
14.5%

HARVEST DATES
Sept. 25 - Oct. 8, 2017

BOTTLING DATE
August 19, 2019

CASE PRODUCTION
970 cases



ESTATE GROWN + SUSTAINABLY FARMED + CERTIFIED NAPA GREEN

ST. SUPÉRY ESTATE VINEYARDS AND WINERY

8440 ST. HELENA HWY. PO BOX 38, RUTHERFORD, CA 94573 | 707.963.4507 | STSUPERY.COM