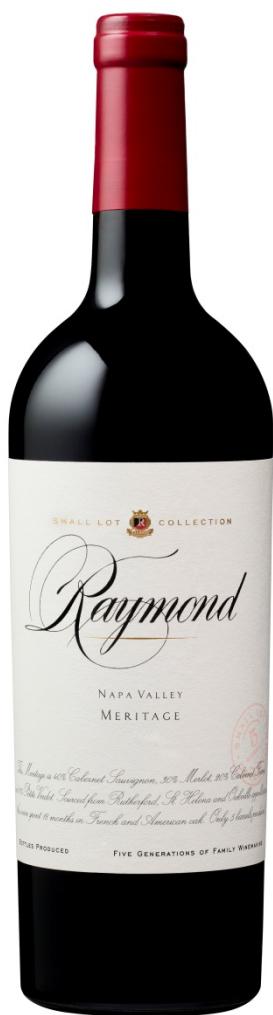




2013 SMALL LOT NAPA VALLEY MERITAGE



TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Napa Valley

Varietal: 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot, 5% Malbec, 5% Cabernet Franc

Alcohol: 14.5% by vol.

pH: 3.61

TA: 6.1 g/L

Ageing: 20 months in French, 40% new

Case Production: 250 cases

IN THE VINEYARD

The 2013 vintage in Napa Valley was one of the earliest harvested vintages in years. A warm spring led to early bud break and created the perfect environment for flowering and fruit set. With warm days and cool nights, our team was able to maintain ideal acid levels with optimum, bright fruit flavors.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

The grapes for this Meritage are grown in the famed Napa Valley appellation, and the blend is made up of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Malbec and Cabernet Franc providing an array of varietal characteristics to work with when crafting the wine. Cabernet Sauvignon provides richness to the wine, while Merlot contributes to the silky mouth feel. The Cabernet Franc provides stunning aromatics while the Malbec and Petit Verdot lends backbone to the overall structure of the wine resulting in a blend that will age nicely over the next 8-10 years. This Meritage is 100% barrel-aged for 20 months in French oak, 40% new.

WINE PROFILE

Our 2013 Small Lot Napa Valley Meritage opens with aromas of Madagascar vanilla, black cardamom and a touch of star anise. Jammy fruit flavors of cassis and brown sugar accented with dark chocolate and allspice seamlessly spread across the palate. Silky, well balance tannins and a full, round mouthfeel make this the perfect accompaniment to traditional pasta dishes with marinara sauce.