



## **2014 CLARET**

Our flagship wine is full and rich and even across the palate. Black current and cherry aromas marry with a hint of cedar in this elegant and seamless Cabernet-based blend. The complexity of flavors is carried across the palate in a silky texture, resolving in a lingering and gentle finish. The Claret, Napa-Style, is made of the best we have in the cellar – a classic Left Bank Bordeaux-style blend of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot.

The mountain vineyards (Howell Mountain, Mount Veeder) share a common denominator in structure – big firm shoulders, masculine tannins, but individual characteristics. Howell Mountain, at 2000ft, on the east side of Napa Valley, has extreme exposure, larger temperature swings, and volcanic soil, creating very firm tannins. Mount Veeder has geologically churned volcanic and ocean-floor soil and the vineyard is nestled in a dense wild forest, which contributes exotic aromatics of menthol and spice in a slightly more refined interplay. Calistoga vineyards are hotter and earlier to ripen, which provide the mid-palate lushness of glycerin and a higher alcohol.

[RP 95]

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

Wine: 2014 Claret

Appellation: Napa Valley [Calistoga, Howell Mountain, Mount Veeder]

Vineyards: Mountain and Valley floor – see above

Varieties: 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

Harvest: Hand picked October 2014

Vinification: Ten-day fermentation, French Oak barrels [20 months]

Alcohol: 15.5% Bottled: May 2016 Production: 700 cases Winemaker: Bob Foley