

PLAYING WITH FIRE Napa Valley Red Blend

2014



2014 VINTAGE

You could sum up the 2014 vintage in the Napa Valley in just a few words: unusually early and excellent. Drought conditions in California contributed to an early growing season. Mild spring and summer temperatures lead to an early harvest. The crop size was somewhat smaller than the abundant 2013 vintage, but still very generous. Temperatures refrained from spiking during the hotter months, which allowed us to pick at optimum ripeness, resulting in intense aromatics and great fruit character.

TASTING NOTES

Vibrant and deep cranberry in color. With a swirl of the glass, ripe black berry and spicy aromas lift into an opulent expression of youth and playfulness. The first sip reveals a bold, fruit-focused core with soft, ripe and seductive viscosity, followed by a whisper of toasty oak. A fleshy mid-palate evolves into a silky smooth layer of boysenberry jam, coffee, paprika and leather. Complex and balanced with bright acidity, juicy fruit and subtle earthiness, this is a lively expression of a red wine lover's dream come true. Soft and approachable now with the backbone to age, if you have the patience.

Vintage: 2014

Appellation: Napa Valley

Varietal: 72% Merlot, 20% Malbec, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon

Alcohol: 14.5%

Cooperage: 100% French oak, 70% new

Production: 168 cases