



2014 29 ESTATE CABERNET FRANC



Harvest Date: October 2, 2014

Barrel Age: 19 months, 80% new, 100% French Oak

Cooperage: St. Martin, Taransaud, Artisan, Ermitage

Bottling Date: June 2, 2016

Alcohol: 15.3%

Release Date: Fall 2017

Cases Produced: 292

Retail Price: \$140 ~ 750ml

Our small cabernet franc vineyard is the most easily viewed block from the terrace of the winery, on a northwest-facing slope along the southern edge of the 29 Estate. We planted our cabernet franc vines in 2000 and have enjoyed watching and tasting their amazing development year over year.

The 2014 growing season marked the third consecutive year of drought in California. An exceptionally dry winter, with some of the coldest days on record, led to an early bud break and the start of the growing season. It was a decently early and smooth harvest, with one huge interruption – the 6.0 magnitude earthquake that rocked Napa Valley. Vineyard 29 was, fortunately, unharmed in the earthquake, but it left many vintners working on repairs in the middle of harvest. Otherwise, ideal picking conditions led to a stunning vintage. Despite the low yields, the wines from 2014 are concentrated and have a serious richness.

Our 2014 Estate Franc elegantly unfolds to reveal black raspberries, blackberry and fragrant lavender. Secondary aromas of forest floor and even more floral notes lead to a juicy, concentrated palate. Firm, persistent tannins add structure and weight to a lush, velvet textured mouth feel. Expect a finish with intensity but lively finesse. This medium-bodied wine will age gracefully for 20 years.