



# 2018 Napa Valley Merlot



## TASTING NOTES

Frank Family's first vintage of this wine in nearly two decades, this opens with fresh plums that intertwine with coffee and cedar. An effortless mix of blackberries and baking spice, the Merlot is complex and elegant, offering smooth layers of pomegranate and a depth of dark chocolate that carries through the persistent finish.

## WINEMAKER NOTES

Frank Family grows several acres of Merlot on our Rutherford properties, which we often blend with our Cabernet Sauvignons to add softness and a more rounded mouthfeel. But Merlot is worthy to stand on its own. This wine has so much elegant and structured potential that it can go head-to-head with many Napa Valley Cabernets.

## SOURCING

Sourced from our family-owned Benjamin Vineyard in Rutherford as well as several of our closest neighbors and long-term grape growers, Delouise, Round Pond Estate, and Sunseri Vineyards located in Oak Knoll, Rutherford, and Chiles Valley respectively.

## AGING

18 months in 33% new and 67% once and twice-filled French oak barrels

Varietal Composition	85% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc
Harvest Date	September 21 - October 19, 2018
Bottled	May 2020
Acid	0.60 g/100ml
pH	3.55 pH
Alcohol	14.5%

FRANK FAMILY  
VINEYARDS