



Girard

NAPA VALLEY

2014 ARTISTRY

NAPA VALLEY

WINEMAKING NOTES

In spite of the drought and the South Napa earthquake, we consider the 2014 vintage in Napa Valley a recent favorite vintage of high quality with depth of flavor and excellent character. Even with drought concerns the weather was near perfect and we were fortunate to have a decent size crop. Mountain fruit specifically came in at an even pace and with well developed fruit character and bright acidity.

VINEYARD NOTES

We source Cabernet Sauvignon for this blend from St. Helena, Oakville, Diamond Mountain and Pope Valley, areas offering dark fruit and well-integrated tannins. Merlot from Yountville and Rutherford lend lush fruit components while our primary sources for Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot from Pope Valley allow for longer hang time. Our Petite Verdot tends to be our last fruit brought in, allowing for complex character and tannin development while the Yountville Malbec adds mid-palate weight and juiciness. These grapes come from both hillside and valley floor vineyards, providing rich texture, balance and integrated tannins. Every year, this blend is perfected to showcase the very best of each year's harvest.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2014 Artistry blend showcases aromatics of black, red and blue fruit notes with hints of leather, cedar and spice which add an earthy character. The palate is bursting with blackberry, currant, raspberry and blueberry layered with a variety of spices like nutmeg, peppercorn and cinnamon. Mocha powder and vanilla accent the tannins and the wine boasts a long finish showcasing the very best the 2014 vintage had to offer.

ABOUT THIS WINE

Artistry blend was born out of a desire to show the pinnacle of our blending efforts. A nod to an age old European tradition, Artistry is a carefully crafted wine that requires our winemaking team to switch from left brain to right brain tendencies. Glenn likens the process to painting a canvas: the 80+ samples of different varietals are all colors, each possessing innumerable shades from which to choose. Keeping each of these lots separate until the time to blend comes, allows us to "paint" with the truest "shades".

VARIETAL COMPOSITION 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc, 11% Malbec & 7% Petit Verdot

GROWING REGION Napa Valley | PRODUCTION 8,000 - 6 pack cases

ALCOHOL 14.9% | pH 3.62 | OAK AGING 20 months in 100% French Oak, 35% New