



## 2016 MERITAGE

### Technical Information

Vineyard: The Meritage Resort & Spa Estate Vineyard

Varietals: 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Malbec, 20% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petite Verdot

Appellation: Napa Valley

Alcohol: 14.3%

Production: 984 Cases

Barrel program: 20 months, 100% new French oak

### Tasting Notes

Aromas of spiced plum, ripe strawberry and raspberry are framed by sarsaparilla and Chinese five spice to form an inviting bouquet. The palate follows with well-defined notes of black and red currant, plum, loamy earth, and wild herbs that trail off into an ever so long finish of vanilla and clove. Everything is lifted by refreshing acidity, as this wine reveals the hallmarks of its Southern Napa terroir. It has beautiful freshness, yet retains the gorgeous fruit that Napa is known for. A great year for Meritage, and a wine that enthusiasts of both Napa and Bordeaux are going to love.

### Winemaking Notes

Our winemaker, Kevin Mills, blends this wine piece by piece. He uses the modern technique of cold soaking prior to fermentation; this ensures maximum color extraction and the preservation of fruit flavors. Our namesake wine is then barrel aged for 20 months in 100% new French oak.

### Vineyard Notes

The Meritage grapes come from our estate vineyard located at the Meritage Resort & Spa, in the shadow of the iconic Grape Crusher Statue. The Vineyard is seven and a half acres and home to all five noble red Bordeaux varietals: Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec and Petit Verdot. The Vineyard is northern facing, allowing constant sun exposure throughout the day. The gentle slope of the vineyard in combination with the rocky soil gives the vines great drainage to maintain berry concentration.

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$65

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