

TASTING NOTES



B & W Wines

FREEMARK ABBEY NAPA VALLEY MERLOT, 2013

BACKGROUND

IT BEGAN OVER A CENTURY AGO AS A VISION SHARED BY A HANDFUL OF PIONEERS; THOSE WITH AN INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF GRAPES AND A DEEP RESPECT FOR THE LAND. THIS VISION TOOK ROOT, WAS NURTURED BY SKILLED HANDS AND ULTIMATELY RESULTED IN ONE OF THE FIRST PREMIUM WINERIES IN THE NAPA VALLEY.

TODAY, THE WINE OF FREEMARK ABBEY STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO WHAT THE RICH EARTH OF THE NAPA VALLEY IS CAPABLE OF CREATING WHEN WORKING IN PERFECT HARMONY WITH NATURE.

ONE OF NAPA'S "TOP WINE STOPS" - FOOD & WINE MAGAZINE, 8/09

TASTING NOTES

OPAQUE DEPTH OF RED RUBY COLOR, OUR MERLOT EXPRESSES RICH DARK FRUIT AROMAS COMPOSED OF DARK CHERRY, BOYSENBERRY, SANTA ROSA PLUM, BAY LEAF AND DRIED HERBS. THERE IS A MILK CHOCOLATE NUANCE WITH INTEGRATED SPICY OAK. COUPLED WITH THE RICH DARK FRUIT, THERE IS A HINT OF ARUGULA ADDING TO THE COMPLEXITY. THE ENTRY AND FINISH ARE VERY SMOOTH WITH INTEGRATED FRUIT RESEMBLING BLACK CHERRY. THE MERLOT HAS A GOOD OVERALL BALANCE OF FRUIT, BODY, TANNIN AND ACIDITY. THE DEPTH OF FRUIT COUPLED WITH THE RICHNESS OF FLAVOR, PROVIDES A PROFILE THAT DELIVERS FROM INITIAL SIP, ONE THAT CONTINUES ON THE PALATE FOR A VERY LONG FINISH.

REVIEWS

93 POINTS, NATALIE MACLEAN (NATALIEMACLEAN.COM):

"FLESHY YET SUBTLE, FULL-BODIED YET BALANCED CALIFORNIAN RED WINE. LOADED WITH RIPE BLACK PLUM NOTES ON THE NOSE. LOTS OF LAYERS OF PLEASURE. THIS WINE IS MADE MOSTLY FROM MERLOT GRAPES WITH SOME CABERNET SAUVIGNON, PETIT VERDOT AND SYRAH. SPECIFICALLY, THERE'S 81% MERLOT, ALONG WITH 11% CABERNET SAUVIGNON AND 8% PETIT VERDOT IN THE BLEND SOURCES FROM VINEYARDS SUCH AS STAGE COACH, KEYES, RED BARN RANCH AND BOSCHE. LONG, SATISFYING PLEASANT FINISH. DECANT FOR AN HOUR FOR MAXIMUM PLEASURE. THIS REPUTABLE CALIFORNIA PRODUCER IS NO SLOUCH WHEN IT COMES TO BALANCED AND DELICIOUS MERLOT. LOTS OF DARK FRUIT AND TOASTY OAK. PAIR WITH GRILLED PORK CHOPS."



VINTAGE: 2013

WINERY: FREEMARK ABBEY ([HTTP://WWW.FREEMARKABBEY.COM/](http://www.freemarkabbey.com/))

AVAILABILITY: AVAILABLE NOW IN CONSIGNMENT

CASE QUANTITY: 12 BOTTLES PER CASE

BOTTLE SIZE: 750 ML

COMPOSITION: MERLOT (80.2%), CABERNET SAUVIGNON (11%), PETIT VERDOT (8.2%) AND SHIRAZ / SYRAH (.6%)



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