



2014 CABERNET FRANC

NAPA VALLEY

Kuleto is one of the most complex and diverse wine producing properties in the world. Located in the volcanic mountains of eastern Napa, our estate features 761 total acres and 82.9 acres of vines perched along ridges and clinging to steep hillsides. Our soils, exposures, elevation changes and sub-climates are so complex that we've delineated our property into more than 100 micro-blocks. Each of these tiny plots is treated as an individual vineyard with varieties, clones, rootstocks, density, trellising and farming methods tailored specifically to the site.

For winemaker Dave Lattin, there is a mutual understanding that all but a small percentage of the winemaker's work is done in the vineyard. Keeping the vineyard's serpentine twists and exposures in mind, the best-suited varieties for each block have been selected. Working with the land, not against it, the individually terraced lots are not oriented to one central direction, but instead are planted to maximize the benefits of their natural location.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

We in the Napa Valley have suffered an embarrassment of riches in terms of having a string of exceptional vintages in recent years. Starting in 2012 and continuing through 2015, each has provided near ideal conditions for ripening fruit perfectly. None, however, stands out in our memory like the 2014. For sheer volume of aroma and flavor in every variety we grow on the estate, 2014 is extraordinary.

At Kuleto Estate, we prize our Cabernet Franc for its ability to retain its varietal character no matter the vintage. In the coolest or dampest of vintages, the sweet herbal component balances perfectly with lower alcohol and balanced acidity. In the warmest of vintages, it becomes like cherry candy in the nose and mouth with just a hint of its true cabernet character. In 2014, it strikes the perfect balance between fruit and sweet herb, and the steam-bent French oak barrels that we selected support that balance by providing structure without being overwhelming. Its kirsch and marjoram flower aromas and fine dusty tannins make this one classic and age worthy wine!

TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Composition 85% Cabernet Franc, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon

Vineyard Kuleto Estate, 1100 - 1250 feet elevation | Alcohol 14.8%

Aging 18 months in 100% new French oak barrels (Artisan Finesse Steam Bent)

pH 3.85 | TA 5.8 g/l

Cases Produced 44 (750 ml)